

Field Studies Information Sheet

PEACE RIVER SITE C HYDRO PROJECT

August 2008 Field Study Overview

BC Hydro continues to conduct environmental and engineering field studies on and around the Peace River, between the Williston Reservoir and the B.C.-Alberta border, as part of the Stage 2 evaluation of the potential Site C project. Below is an overview of studies that will be taking place in August. Additional study activities may occur during the month; notice of these studies will be posted at www.bchydro.com/sitec.

August 2008 Overview:

Field Study (additional details are attached)	Timing
Peace River Tributary Fisheries Study	August and October
Fish Tracking in the Peace River system	Spring – Fall
Water Quality Baseline Study in the Peace River and Tributaries	August and October
Peace River Angler and River-Based Recreational Use Survey	August (monthly survey)
Wildlife studies in the Peace River system	August

Because much of the information currently known about the potential Site C project is almost 25 years old, information from new field studies is required to update engineering, environmental studies, and other technical work.

No decision has been made to build Site C. BC Hydro is taking a stage-by-stage approach to the evaluation of the potential project and is currently in Stage 2 – Project Definition and Consultation.

Field study updates are available on the website at www.bchydro.com/sitec and in the Community Consultation Office: 9948 100th Avenue, Fort St. John.

SITE C FIELD STUDIES AUGUST 2008

- Some field studies may require access to public and private land. BC Hydro will obtain permission before accessing private property.
- Ongoing, regular BC Hydro operations work will take place during the spring and summer months on the Peace River and tributaries. This work is in addition to the Site C field study activities outlined here.

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FOR GENERATIONS

www.bchydro.com/sitec

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Study Name	Description, location and access needed	Timing
<p>Peace River Fisheries Tributary Study</p>	<p>BC Hydro continues to conduct a fisheries study on the Peace River tributaries. The study involves a survey of upstream summer and fall fish migrations in the Peace River tributaries, by sampling with hoop nets and boats, and backpack electro-fishing. Fish surveys will also be conducted on foot and by boat to assess critical fish rearing habitat.</p> <p>The following sites will be surveyed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maurice Creek/Lynx Creek/Farrell Creek/Cache Creek/Wilder Creek/Red Creek/Moberly River and Halfway River <p>Researchers will access sites by foot, boat and helicopter.</p>	<p>August 2008</p> <p><i>Next sampling period: October</i></p>
<p>Fish Tracking in the Peace River system</p>	<p>BC Hydro continues to conduct periodic aerial surveys over the Peace River in the Fort St. John area to determine the locations and movement of radio-tagged fish in the Peace River and tributaries. These surveys began in the week of March 31 and will continue until fall 2008.</p> <p>Helicopter and airplane flyovers will be conducted bi-weekly on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace River mainstem from the Peace Canyon Dam downstream to the B.C.-Alberta border and potentially as far as Peace River, AB. • Halfway River from the mouth to the upper headwater tributaries • Pine River to the upper extent of the Sukunka and Burnt rivers, and the Murray River to Kinuseo Falls • Beaton River to the Doig River confluence <p>In addition to aerial surveys, telemetry stations are set-up on the ground to track the movement of radio-tagged fish as they move past these stations in the Peace River and tributaries.</p> <p>Telemetry stations are located on the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moberly River/Beaton River /Pine River/Halfway River/Graham River <p>Researchers will access the telemetry station sites bi-weekly by vehicle, ATV, helicopter and foot.</p>	<p>Spring to Fall 2008</p>

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Water Quality Baseline Study in Peace River and Tributaries	<p>BC Hydro continues to collect water quality samples from various locations along the Peace River and tributaries between Hudson's Hope and Fort St. John in a Water Quality Baseline Study that commenced in February 2008.</p> <p>Water samples will be taken at the following sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace River/Cache Creek/Halfway Creek/Farrell Creek/Lynx Creek/Moberly River /Boudreau River <p>Researchers will use 4x4 vehicles and boats to access test sites.</p>	<p>August</p> <p><i>Next sampling period: October</i></p> <p><i>Additional samples will be collected at designated times until Feb 2009</i></p>
Peace River Angler and River- Based Recreational Use Survey	<p>BC Hydro is conducting a monthly angler and river-based recreation use survey along the Peace River and tributaries between Peace Canyon Dam and the B.C.-Alberta border.</p> <p>This study will result in a detailed survey of current angler and recreational use and valid estimates of total angler effort and catch each year. Estimates of angler effort will be made using flyovers of the study area in fixed-wing aircraft.</p> <p>The average catch will be estimated from shore-based interviews at boat landing or fishing sites. Flyovers and interviews will be conducted on a monthly basis through 2008 and into 2009.</p>	<p>Commenced May 2008</p> <p><i>Surveys will run monthly through 2008 and into 2009</i></p>
Wildlife Studies	<p>BC Hydro is conducting wildlife surveys in the Peace River area from Hudson's Hope to the B.C.-Alberta border.</p> <p>Surveys in August will include :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Butterfly Surveys (first week of August) • Waterfowl Surveys (mid-end of August) • Bat detector and hibernacula (last week of August) <p>Bat and butterfly surveys dates are weather dependent and subject to changes.</p> <p>Initial access to survey areas will be by vehicle or boat. A crew of two researchers will then walk to survey sites. Bat hibernacula investigations will be done by helicopter.</p>	<p>August 2008</p>