

Site C Construction Schedule: August 22 – September 4, 2020



A section of the Halfway River will be closed to boaters from September 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021 due to Site C construction. In this photo, nine out of 12 bridge piers are under construction for the new Halfway River bridge. See more project photos in the [image gallery](#).

News and highlights

- The mouth of the Halfway River will be [closed to boaters](#) from September 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021. As part of reservoir clearing activities, BC Hydro will be building six temporary crossings over the Halfway River. Boaters will still be able to access the Peace River from the Halfway River boat launch.
- Work may begin on the placement of riprap to [reinforce the piers](#) of the Peace River construction bridge.
- [Controlled spilling will take place](#) over the next few weeks at the W.A.C. Bennett and Peace Canyon dams, ahead of river diversion at Site C this fall.

CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

COVID-19 update

- BC Hydro continues to work with Northern Health and provincial health officials to [monitor for COVID-19](#) and protect our workforce and partner communities.

River diversion and navigational changes

- A two-kilometre section of the Halfway River will be [closed to boaters](#) from September 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021. As part of reservoir clearing activities, BC Hydro will be building six temporary crossings over the Halfway River
- Upstream cofferdam construction is continuing as part of river closure, including the placement of interlocking steel piles.
- Underwater dredging is nearing completion for the inlet and outlet approach channels. This is key work to make sure that when crews open the diversion tunnels, the water has a clear path to enter the tunnels.
- Debris that built up on the debris boom on the Peace River is being cleared using specialized equipment. Construction of the remaining debris management structures continues.
- For safety reasons, a four-kilometre section of the Peace River near Fort St. John has been [permanently closed to boaters](#). This closure is related to in-river works associated with [river diversion](#) and dam construction.

Dam site area – north bank and south bank

- Construction of improvements at Security Gate B is continuing.
- Commissioning of the temporary fishway is continuing.
- [Penstock deliveries continue](#). This will result in occasional night-time traffic delays on Old Fort Road. Check our website for the [delivery schedule](#).
- A number of work fronts are active including earthworks, drilling and grouting, and roller compacted concrete placement. All work fronts are being monitored and maintained to meet environmental and regulatory commitments.
- Powerhouse construction is continuing. This includes concrete placements at the powerhouse and spillway, and construction of the steel structure for the powerhouse.
- Substation work is continuing. This includes testing and commissioning to prepare for energization in the fall.
- The turbine generator contractor continues to deliver components and materials to site for storage inside the warehouse and outside in laydown areas 24 and 27. The contractor is resuming operations at their on-site shop and beginning phased mobilization to the main service bay. Unit 1 turbine installation begins in the fall.

Highway 29

Cache Creek East

- [Construction is continuing](#) on the Cache Creek East embankment including highway hauling of materials from the Peaceview Borrow and riprap from Portage Mountain Quarry. Drivers can expect minor delays.

Cache Creek West

- Cache Creek West construction is complete.

Halfway River

- Construction of a 1,042-metre-long bridge at [Halfway River](#) continues. This includes operation of a concrete batch plant, aggregate plant, aggregate pit development, construction of bridge abutments, installation of bridge pier rebar, formwork and concrete, and hauling and stockpiling of materials.
- The installation of bridge foundation piles at the east and west bridge abutments may begin.
- In-river construction of a berm may begin, depending on river levels.
- Surveying and vegetation removal will occur in the Halfway River area, for a new distribution line.

Lynx Creek

- Embankment construction is complete.
- Riprap materials will be hauled from Portage Mountain quarry and stockpiled near Lynx Creek.
- [Visit our website](#) for more Highway 29 schedules, maps and construction updates.

Reservoir area clearing

- Field surveys and investigations may occur along the reservoir in preparation for construction works this fall.
- Access road construction and deconstruction may occur in middle reservoir, near Halfway River.
- Processing of waste wood that is being left on site to meet engineering specifications may occur in areas of the eastern and middle reservoirs. Vehicles, boats and/or helicopters may be used by workers to access work sites. Road maintenance activities may occur, as needed.
- Hauling of logs to local mills may occur subject to suitable access road conditions.

Transmission works

- Stringing of transmission lines using a helicopter near Peace Canyon Dam will continue. Intermittent road closures may occur.
- Installation of helical piles and micropiles is taking place at various locations.
- Tower assembly is in progress at various sites.
- Site access and reclamation works will continue.

85th Avenue Conveyor

- The conveyor belt is being used occasionally, as needed.

Other areas

- Field investigations along the reservoir for shallow water fish habitat may occur.
- Installation of 25 eagle nest platforms may begin in various areas around the Peace River.
- Stockpiling of materials from Portage Mountain at a site on Canyon Drive will continue.
- Blasting and rip rap production is occurring at Portage Mountain Quarry. Other work includes loading of trucks and maintaining haul roads and stockpile areas.
- [Riprap hauling will occur](#) from Portage Mountain Quarry to various segments of Highway 29 construction.
- Aggregate and riprap production will continue in West Pine Quarry and Portage Mountain Quarry.

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WHAT TO EXPECT

Work will take place during the day, night, and on the weekend, until the project is completed. During this time, residents can expect:

Boating

- The Peace River near the dam site has been permanently closed to vessel traffic. A patrol boat will monitor the area, which is also marked with beacons and signage.
- Boaters are advised to watch for logs and debris flowing down the Peace River.
- Boaters should use caution in the Peace River when in the Lynx Creek, Dry Creek and Halfway River areas.

Traffic – please use caution and obey safety signage

- **Old Fort Road**
 - Near Gate A to the dam site, drivers may encounter loose gravel and increased commercial traffic.
 - Due to equipment delivery, there may be [occasional short road closures](#) along Old Fort Road.
- **Highway 29:** Construction-related equipment will travel along Highway 29 and Highway 97. Learn more at drivebc.ca.
- **Other areas:** Trucks with heavy loads will be accessing the dam site and other project areas, using public and resource roads.

Equipment

- Heavy machinery will be in the transmission line corridor. Please stay clear of the work areas.
- Helicopters and commercial drones may be used to support investigative and construction works.

Noise and vibration

- Some noise and vibration may occur near the dam site and work areas, including the quarries.

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