

ATTENTION ANGLERS:

Radio-tagged fish released in the Peace River and its tributaries

BC Hydro is tracking the movement of fish throughout the Peace Region using radio telemetry to gather valuable data on the potential effects of the Site C project on fish. This is a critical component of BC Hydro's Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Monitoring and Follow-up Program, which focuses on monitoring fish and fish habitat during the construction of the Site C project and for the first 30 years of operation.

What is radio telemetry?

Radio telemetry is a valuable tool to monitor the movements of fish. Radio transmitters are carefully implanted into the body cavity of fish before releasing them back into the river. Anglers can identify tagged fish by a flexible wire antenna that hangs from the body of the fish.

Fish captured in the Peace Region may also have a PIT tag in the muscle tissue below the dorsal fin. PIT tags are 12 to 32 mm long and allow biologists to track individual fish throughout their lifespan.

How are fish monitored?

Radio-tagged fish are detected as they swim by fixed telemetry stations that are strategically placed along the banks of the Peace River and its tributaries. Stations are visited every few weeks to download the logged data, and inspect and test the equipment.

Where are fish tracked?

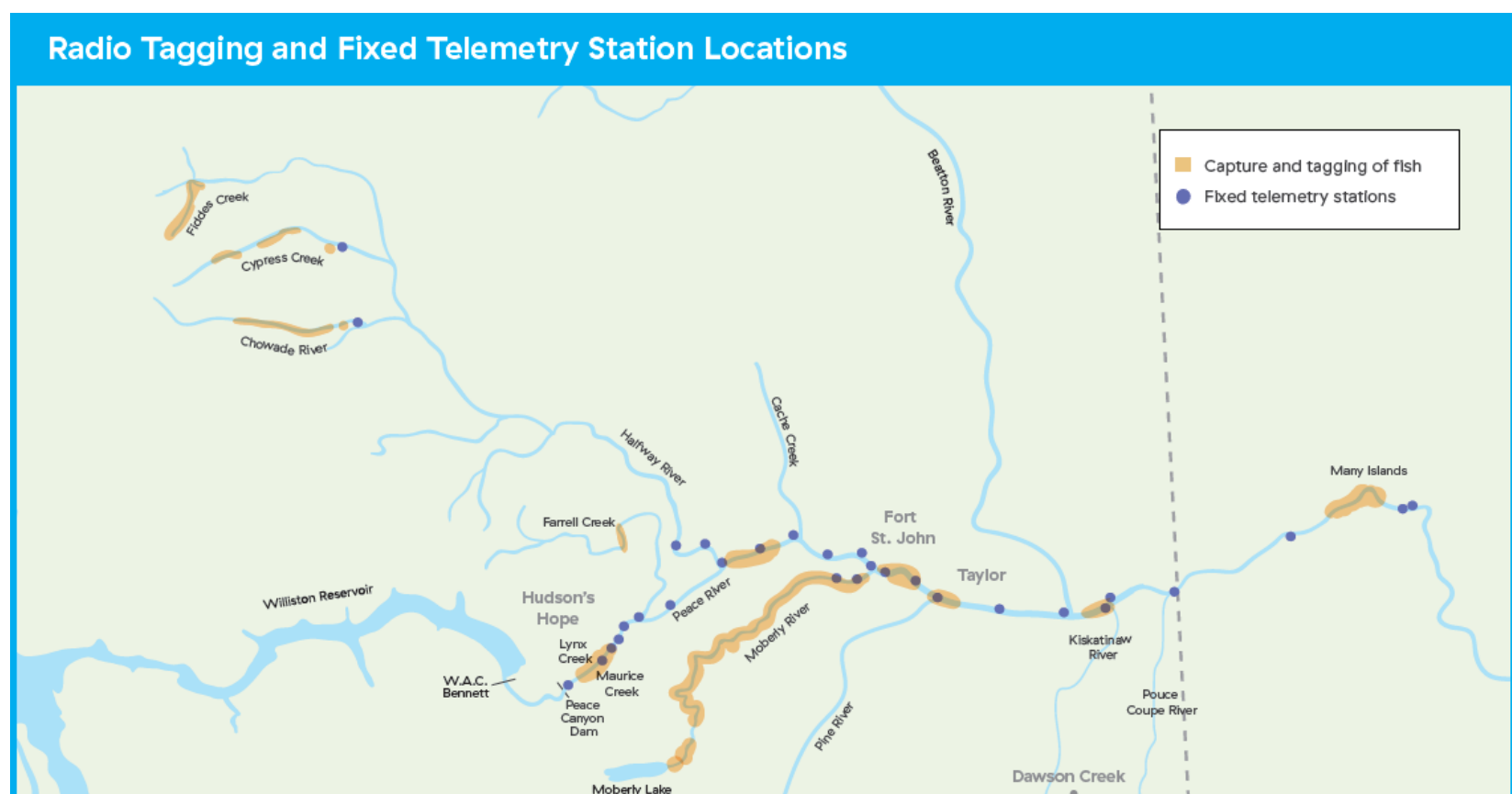
BC Hydro is tagging various species of fish, including bull trout, Arctic grayling, rainbow trout, walleye and burbot. More than 1000 fish have been tagged and released in the locations shown below.



Biologists carefully implant a radio transmitter before releasing the fish back into the river.



Radio transmitters have a flexible wire antenna that hangs from the fish's body cavity and is visible to anglers.



Anglers are required to follow provincial fishing regulations. BC Hydro encourages anglers to release radio-tagged fish back into the river with minimal stress.

If a radio or PIT tag is recovered from a harvested fish, please return to:

WSP Global Inc.
Attention: Demitria Burgoon
10803 91st Ave. Unit A
Fort St John, BC V1J 6L3
250-785-9281 | tagreturns@wsp.com

PIT tags should be mailed in a padded envelope to protect the tags from damage. Anglers will receive a detailed account of the individual fish's history (detection and recapture) since being tagged.