

SITE C PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

CLEARING AND DEBRIS MANAGEMENT

The Site C project will result in an 83-kilometre reservoir that will be, on average, two-to-three times the width of the current river. The reservoir will extend west from the Site C dam site to Hudson's Hope.

While the filling of the reservoir is one of the last construction activities to take place, work to clear the reservoir area of trees and vegetation will occur in the near term to prepare for river diversion in 2020 and Highway 29 realignment.

The reservoir areas that will be cleared will take into account slope and terrain stability, riparian areas, vegetation heights in relation to reservoir levels and boat use. This is consistent with best practice methods for hydroelectric reservoirs as it allows for merchantable wood to be delivered to local mills, supports a safe boating environment and reduces the amount of methylmercury.

Contractors for this work will access the clearing areas by using temporary and existing access roads. Both hand and machine clearing techniques will be used, depending on the area and terrain. All clearing will be done in accordance with the conditions of the Environmental Assessment Certificate, the Federal Decision Statement and the Construction Environmental Management Plan. All required permits and authorizations will be in place before the clearing and vegetation removal occurs.

Debris management

The wood cleared from the reservoir and other areas will need to be removed and/or disposed. Merchantable trees of sufficient size, quality and volume to make them suitable for harvest and transport will be hauled to local mills. The remaining wood may be chipped, mulched, spread as coarse woody debris or burned on site.

Burning

When conditions allow, wood will be burned at the dam site, in the transmission line corridor and along the reservoir area.

BC Hydro's contractor will plan and monitor any burning carefully, including the timing, the size and location of the wood piles, and the smoke being emitted. The contractor will have a Qualified Environmental Professional that surveys each burn pile to confirm compliance with regulatory requirements and project commitments. Burning will be done in compliance with BC Hydro's Smoke Management Plan.

Typically, burning can occur between November and March; however, open burning can take place at any time of the year if conditions allow for safe burning and an acceptable venting forecast.

Air quality

BC Hydro monitors weather and air quality at four monitoring stations in and around the Site C project site. In addition, the Province of B.C. has additional weather and fine particulate monitoring stations in the Fort St. John area. BC Hydro shares its monitoring results with the Province of B.C., who may issue public weather and air quality warnings, if required.

Notification process

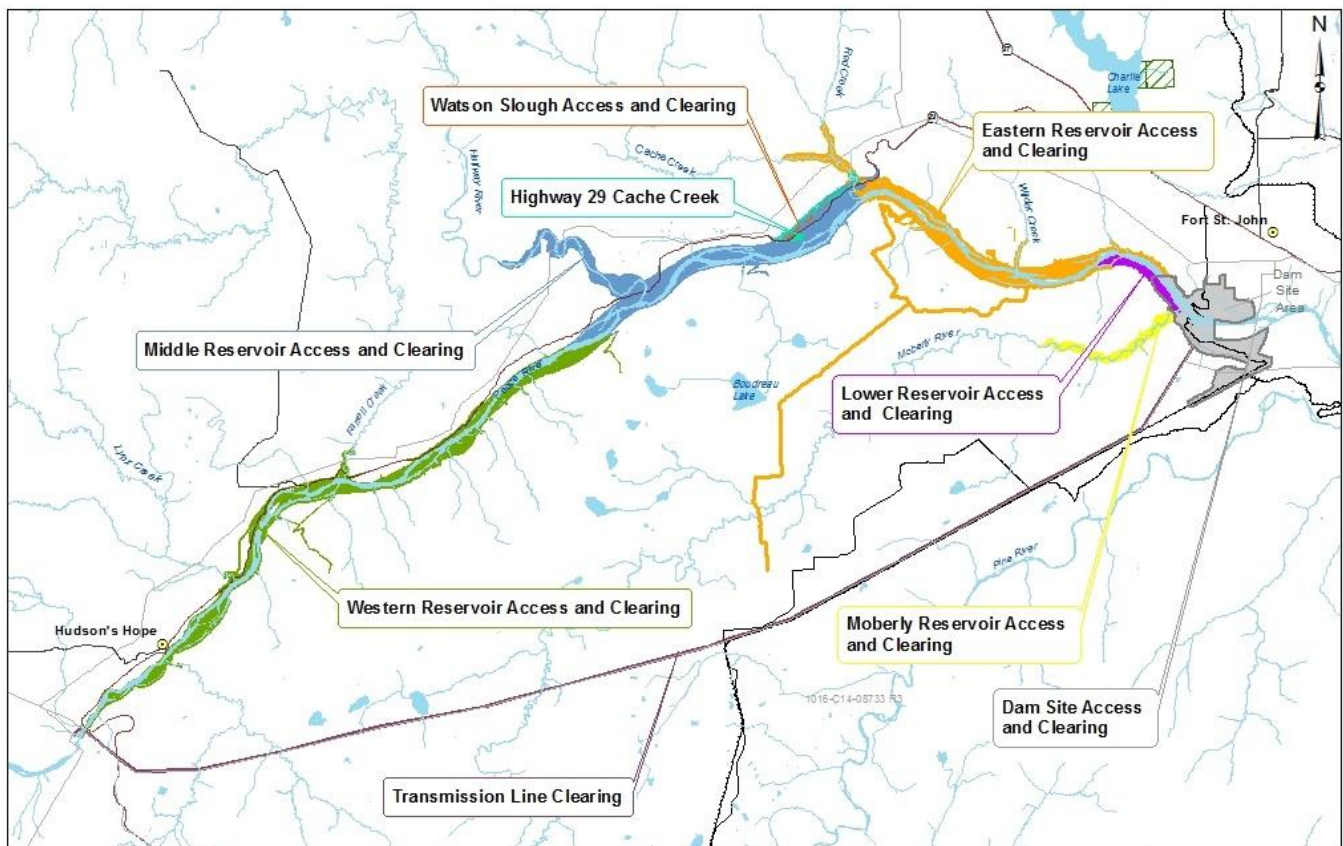
- Prior to any burning, the Site C project's contractor will notify local and regional governments, Indigenous groups, provincial agencies, first responders, health care providers and nearby property

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owners, as outlined in the Smoke Management Plan.

- The contractor will make every effort to provide a 24-hour notification to these groups prior to burning.
- In some circumstances, daily forecasts may not allow for a 24-hour notification. In these cases, stakeholders will be notified the morning of burning, prior to ignition.
- Information about planned burning will be included in the bi-weekly Site C construction bulletin.

Clearing map and timelines



Dam Site Access and Clearing
Summer 2015 to spring 2016: completed

Lower Reservoir Access and Clearing
Phase 1: fall 2015 to spring 2016
Phase 2: winter 2016/2017 to winter 2017/2018

Transmission Line Clearing
Season 1: January 2017 to March 2017
Season 2: January 2018 to March 2018

Middle Reservoir Access and Clearing
Reservoir areas: late summer 2018 to spring 2021
Halfway River drainage: fall 2020 to spring 2022

Watson Slough Access and Clearing
Winter 2022/2023

Highway 29 Cache Creek
Spring 2017: completed

Moberly Reservoir Access and Clearing
Season 1: winter 2016/2017 to spring 2017
Season 2: fall 2018 to spring 2020

Eastern Reservoir Access and Clearing
Winter 2017/2018 to spring 2020

Western Reservoir Access and Clearing
Halfway River to Lynx Creek: late summer 2020 to spring 2022
Lynx Creek to Hudson's Hope: late summer 2021 to spring 2023