

MONTHLY FIELD STUDIES SUMMARY

May 2013

The Site C Clean Energy Project is currently undergoing a cooperative environmental assessment by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency and the B.C. Environmental Assessment Office, which includes a Joint Review Panel process.

BC Hydro filed its Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in January 2013 as part of this process. BC Hydro is continuing to conduct environmental and engineering field studies on and around the Peace River between the Williston Reservoir and the Alberta border to inform detailed mitigation planning, prepare project permits, and ensure information is gathered with respect to monitoring programs proposed in the EIS.

This notice provides a list of field work planned for May 2013. Helicopters may be required for some of the work listed below.

Overview
Socio-Economic Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry Surveys
Engineering Investigations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instrumentation Monitoring
Wildlife Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bat Surveys • Amphibian Surveys • Waterfowl Survey • Jackfish Lake Moose and Elk Monitoring Program
Physical Environment Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geomorphology and Sediment Transport Studies • Climate and Air Quality Monitoring

Current and previous field study activities are available at bchydro.com/sitec and in the Community Consultation offices in Fort St. John and in the Pearkes Centre in Hudson's Hope.

Regular and ongoing BC Hydro work may also be taking place on the Peace River and tributaries related to BC Hydro's Peace River water licence requirements or other operations work.

For further information, please contact:

Kate O'Neil, Community Relations

Office: 250-785-3415 Cell: 250-793-5416

May 2013

Study Name	Description	Timing
<p>Socio-Economic Studies – Forestry Surveys</p>	<p>Forestry surveys will be completed on the south bank at the proposed dam site.</p> <p>Survey teams comprising two technicians per team will be using topographical equipment and a global positioning system (GPS) to conduct the forestry sampling. Survey results will be used to update the forestry inventory.</p> <p>Access will be by road, boat and helicopter.</p>	<p>May 2013</p>
<p>Engineering Investigations – Instrumentation Monitoring</p>	<p>BC Hydro is continuing instrumentation monitoring in the proposed dam site area.</p> <p>There are approximately 80 sites throughout the reservoir area where geotechnical instruments are installed. These sites are visited approximately every three to six months throughout the year for reading and maintenance.</p>	<p>May 2013</p>
<p>Wildlife Studies – Bat Surveys</p>	<p>BC Hydro is conducting bat surveys to collect additional baseline data on bat presence and use at a proposed quarry at Portage Mountain to advance mitigation planning.</p> <p>Sampling will be conducted by a team of professional biologists. The surveys will focus on gathering data from bats emerging from hibernation (in May) and bats preparing to enter into hibernacula (in August and early September).</p> <p>Data will be collected using bat detectors and night-time observations of potential hibernacula sites.</p> <p>Access to the quarry site will be through a mix of road and foot.</p>	<p>May – September 2013</p>
<p>Wildlife Studies – Amphibian Surveys</p>	<p>BC Hydro is conducting additional amphibian surveys to collect detailed data that will be used to assist in mitigation planning. Data will be collected along Jackfish Lake Road and the proposed Jackfish Lake Road extension (including an area up to 100m on either side of the road).</p>	<p>May – August 2013</p>

May 2013

Study Name	Description	Timing
	<p>Spring surveys (May) will focus on documenting the location and type of suitable amphibian breeding habitat while summer surveys (July – August) will document toad dispersal locations along the road alignment.</p> <p>Sampling will be conducted by two professional biologists.</p> <p>Accessing properties for the field studies will be through a mix of road, quad and foot.</p>	
<p>Wildlife Studies – Waterfowl Survey</p>	<p>BC Hydro is conducting a waterfowl survey on the Peace River from Hudson’s Hope to the B.C. - Alberta border.</p> <p>The survey will involve using a low-flying helicopter that will fly slowly over the river to perform an inventory of waterfowl present.</p> <p>The survey will take place once a month in mid-March, mid-April and mid-May and will take place over the course of six hours per day.</p>	<p>March – May 2013</p>
<p>Wildlife Studies – Jackfish Lake Moose and Elk Monitoring Program</p>	<p>BC Hydro is conducting a moose and elk monitoring study on the south bank of the Peace River, around the Jackfish Lake Road area, and in the area of the transmission corridor right-of-way.</p> <p>The first phase of the study took place between winter 2012 and spring 2013, and involved the capture and outfitting of 32 moose and elk with GPS collars.</p> <p>Phase II involves tracking collared animals for up to two years, and phase III, the final phase, will involve removing the collars from the study animals following the monitoring period.</p>	<p>December 2012 – April 2015</p> <p><i>Phase II, tracking collared animals, occurs between May 2013 and April 2015.</i></p>
<p>Physical Environment Studies – Geomorphology and Sediment Transport Studies</p>	<p>BC Hydro is continuing geomorphology and sediment transport studies started in 2010, and continued in 2011 and 2012 to characterize baseline river geomorphology, or shape of the river channels, and sediment transport rates at sites along the Peace River and its tributaries.</p>	<p>April – December 2013</p>

May 2013

Study Name	Description	Timing
	<p>BC Hydro will continue maintenance and operation of four turbidity monitoring stations located on either river bank both upstream and downstream of the Site C dam site. In addition, BC Hydro will continue suspended sediment data collection during freshet for the Moberly River and will install new turbidity monitoring stations just upstream of the town of Taylor and at the Spectra gas plant water intake.</p> <p>Regular site visits will take place between May and December 2013 to collect data, check equipment and perform maintenance.</p> <p>Field crew access will be by boat and foot.</p>	
<p>Physical Environment Studies - Climate & Air Quality Monitoring</p>	<p>BC Hydro is collecting climate and air quality data from seven monitoring stations on private and BC Hydro owned land between Hudson's Hope and Old Fort, south of Fort St. John, as well as seven climate monitoring stations throughout the Peace River watershed.</p> <p>Information on various climate parameters is being gathered, including: air temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, fog frequency and density, snow depth and precipitation. Monitoring of particulate matter (mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets in the air) will be conducted at Old Fort and Halfway River.</p> <p>These data were used to establish baseline conditions that informed the effects assessment of the Site C project on in-valley climate and air quality in the area. BC Hydro is continuing to collect the data to verify actual changes should the Project be built and to forecast periods of high tributary inflows for construction planning.</p> <p>Stations are visited regularly to retrieve data and for maintenance. Access to the monitoring stations is by vehicle, foot and helicopter.</p>	<p>Ongoing monitoring from February 2009.</p>

Note: Access to public and private land may be required in order to complete study work. BC Hydro will obtain permission from land owners and provide notification to BC Hydro leaseholders before entry onto private or leased lands.