

SITE C PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

CLEARING AND DEBRIS MANAGEMENT

The Site C project includes an 83-kilometre reservoir that will be about 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 filling the reservoir is one of the last construction activities to take place, the reservoir area first needs to be cleared of trees and vegetation in order to prepare for river diversion in 2020, Highway 29 realignment, and other activities. This is consistent with other hydroelectric reservoirs as it allows for wood to be delivered to local mills, supports a safe boating environment, and reduces the amount of methylmercury in the reservoir.

Clearing is also required in other project areas. The 75-kilometre long transmission line corridor is being cleared in order to construct the 500 kV transmission lines that will connect the Site C dam to the Peace Canyon Generating Station. Areas along Highway 29 are being cleared to prepare for the realignment of six sections of highway prior to reservoir filling.

Contractors will access work areas by using temporary and existing access roads. They will use hand and machine clearing techniques, depending on the area and terrain. All clearing will follow 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 begins.

Debris management

The wood cleared from the reservoir and other areas will need to be removed. 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 in project areas, including at the dam site, in the transmission line corridor, and in the reservoir area.

BC Hydro's contractor will plan and monitor any burning carefully, including the timing, size and location of the wood piles, and the smoke being emitted. The contractor will comply with regulatory requirements and BC Hydro's Smoke Management Plan.

Typically burning occurs between October 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 weather and fine particulate monitoring stations in the Fort St. John area. BC Hydro shares its monitoring results with the Province of B.C. which may issue public weather and air quality warnings, if needed.

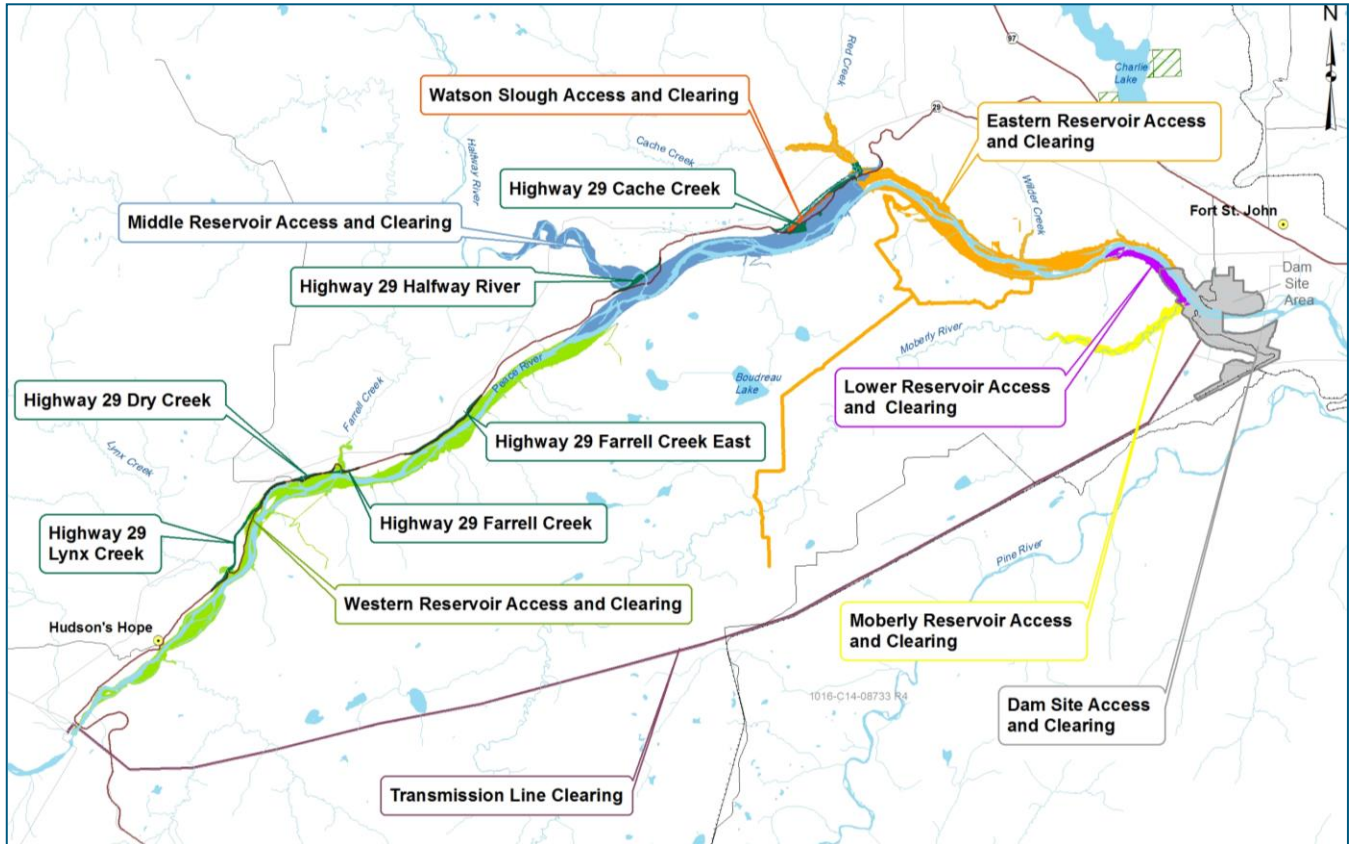
Notification process

- 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 owners, as outlined in the Smoke Management Plan.
- The contractor will make every effort to provide 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.

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- Information about planned burning will be included in the bi-weekly Site C construction bulletin.

Clearing map and timelines



<p>Dam site access and clearing Summer 2015 to spring 2016 (completed)</p>	<p>Moberly reservoir access and clearing Season 1: winter 2016/2017 Season 2: fall 2018 to spring 2019 Waste wood removal: 2018 to 2019</p>
<p>Lower reservoir access and clearing Phase 1: fall 2015 to spring 2016 Phase 2: winter 2016/2017 to winter 2017/2018 Phase 3: fall/winter 2018/2019 Waste wood removal: 2018 to 2019</p>	<p>Eastern reservoir access and clearing Fall 2018 to spring 2019 Waste wood removal: 2019 to 2020</p>
<p>Middle reservoir access and clearing Reservoir areas: fall 2019 to spring 2020 Halfway River drainage: fall 2020 to spring 2021 Waste wood removal: 2020 to 2022</p>	<p>Western reservoir access and clearing Halfway River to Lynx Creek: summer 2020 to spring 2021 Lynx Creek to Hudson's Hope: summer 2021 to spring 2022 Wood waste removal: 2022 to 2023</p>
<p>Transmission line clearing Season 1: winter 2017 to spring 2018 Season 2: fall 2018 to spring 2019 Waste wood removal: 2018 to 2020</p>	<p>Halfway River debris boom clearing Fall 2018 to spring 2019 Wood waste removal: 2019 to 2020</p>

<p>Highway 29 clearing</p> <p>Cache Creek East (remaining and realignment west of Cache Creek) Clearing and vegetation removal: spring 2020 Waste wood removal: spring 2020</p> <p>Cache Creek West (Peace View Pit and remaining realignment right-of-way) Clearing and vegetation removal: fall 2018 to spring 2019 Waste wood removal: spring 2019</p> <p>Watson Slough access and clearing Clearing and vegetation removal: to be determined based on eastern reservoir schedule</p> <p>Halfway River Clearing and vegetation removal: winter 2018 to spring 2019 Waste wood removal: winter 2018 to spring 2019</p>	<p>Highway 29 clearing</p> <p>Farrell Creek East Clearing and vegetation removal: spring 2020 to summer 2020 Waste wood removal: spring 2020 to summer 2020</p> <p>Farrell Creek Clearing and vegetation removal: spring 2020 to summer 2020 Waste wood removal: spring 2020 to summer 2020</p> <p>Dry Creek Clearing and vegetation removal: summer 2019 to fall 2019 Waste wood removal: summer 2019 to fall 2019</p> <p>Lynx Creek: Clearing and vegetation removal: winter 2019 to fall 2020 Waste wood removal: winter 2019 to fall 2020</p>
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