

Peace River Baseline Temperature Project

The Peace Water Use Plan Committee recommended a project to collect baseline and spillway operation temperature data in the Peace River system. By collecting both the baseline data and the data during spillway operation, temperature patterns of the river can be analyzed to understand the influence of reservoir operation on downstream water temperature. This project maintains data loggers and monitors temperature measurements in the Peace River system.



Questions We Wanted to Answer

1. What is the temperature regime of the Peace River system?



Project Update

- Temperature monitoring began in 2008 for this 10 year project.
- In 2012, there was a spill event where data was collected both downstream the Peace Canyon Dam and the W.A.C. Bennett Dam.
- Results from downstream of Peace Canyon Dam showed no measurable temperature effects from the spill.
- Results from Peace Canyon Dam show a 1°C increase than flows leaving W.A.C. Bennett Dam.

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Lessons Learned

- Collection of annual temperature data provides useful information on the temperature profile of the forebay and tailrace of both dams as well as for the Peace River.



Key Findings and Next Steps

- Peace River temperature data may assist in future analysis of monitoring studies of the Peace Spill Protocol and Peace River Flood Pulse Plan.