Bridge River Hydroelectric System
Projects Update—Winter 2020

We’re working to renew the Bridge River electricity system which is about 300 kilometres north of Vancouver and in the Traditional Territory of the St’at’imc Nation.

The system consists of the Lajoie Dam and Powerhouse (Downton Reservoir), Bridge 1 and 2 Powerhouses (Terzaghi Dam and Carpenter Reservoir) and Seton Dam and Powerhouse (Seton Lake).

We’re spending almost $700 million on these 55 to 70 year old facilities, whose proximity to the Lower Mainland helps us operate more efficiently. This includes a number of projects in the region.

Construction begins on Bridge River 2 Generating Station Upgrade – Units 7 and 8

This summer, we’ll begin upgrading generating units 7 and 8 at the Bridge River 2 (BR2) generating station. In 2019, we completed the replacement of generators 5 and 6 at BR2.

The project will replace two end-of-life generators inside the powerhouse. It will improve our ability to efficiently manage the Bridge River System. While this work is underway, the penstocks leading to the station will also be recoated.

BC Hydro contractor Voith will arrive on site in early 2020 to start pre-assembling the new units. This includes assembling the stator frame, core and windings of both units. Major components will start to arrive on site in early 2020.

BR2 is a four unit, 278 megawatt powerhouse built in the late 1950s. The station produces enough electricity to power 126,500 homes.
Helping Fish on the Lower Bridge River

This summer, BC Hydro will continue working with the St’at’imc Nation on two environmental mitigation projects for fish in the Lower Bridge River.

The Horseshoe Bend Project includes the design and construction of off-channel nursery habitat for three salmon species and will improve riparian habitat. The habitat will provide protection for fish at key life stages and will mitigate future impacts on fish and wildlife from changing river water levels.

The Salmon Stock Enhancement project will enhance chinook salmon stocks and possibly Coho stock in the future at a St’at’imc hatchery (N’Quatqua) with the aim to replenish salmon stocks in the Lower Bridge River.

Post-Secondary Scholarships

We offer two, $500 scholarships to students pursuing post-secondary studies in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) or trades training. All students graduating from Lillooet Secondary School are welcome to apply. Applications will be accepted April 15 to May 22, 2020. For more information, students are encouraged to reach out to their local counselor. You can also contact communityinvestment@bchydro.com.

Bridge River Transmission Project

The Bridge River Transmission Project will ensure that the regional transmission system continues to reliably move electricity from Bridge River generating facilities to our customers during peak periods. For more information and maps of the alternatives, visit bchydro.com/brt.

Quick Facts

- The Bridge River system generates enough electricity to power the equivalent of 300,000 homes a year.
- There are two 2,500-metre tunnels drilled through Mission Mountain – to bring water from Carpenter Lake.

For more information on Bridge River projects, visit bchydro.com/bridgeriver.

If you have questions, please contact us at projects@bchydro.com or 604 623 4472 or toll free at 1 866 647 3334.