

HIGHWAY 8 INFORMATION & UPDATES



Ministry of
Transportation
and Infrastructure

Infrastructure update prepared for residents
For the weeks of December 24, 2021 to January 9, 2022

Progress report

No. of Sites	2	6	15
	Temp. Access	Work Underway	Planned Work

The Highway 8 Team is working on 23 sites overall. So far, we have constructed temporary access at two sites, started construction on another six, and have 15 sites that we will begin working on in the new year.

Updates for residents

Restoring power

- We are working with BC Hydro to ensure power is restored as quickly and safely as possible as we repair the highway and create temporary access points. Power is now restored at four sites as far west of Merritt as the Shackan Indian Reserve, on the north side only.
- We are now working on temporary access at Site 21 (3 Mile) and Site 22 (Rattlesnake Bridge), after which work to restore power can begin.

Site updates

- We are making significant progress on highway repairs, working west from Merritt.
- Work has been initiated at Site 6 (20km east of Spences Bridge) and continues at Site 5 (21km east of Spences Bridge). Work is expected to continue into early January. Residents in this area can expect updates about access very soon.

Work to pause Dec 24 to Dec 27

- Your Highway 8 team has worked tirelessly since November's severe weather and flooding resulted in serious damage to 23 sites along the Highway 8 corridor. We have made significant progress, all the while ensuring environmental and cultural protocols are followed at each work site.
- Work will pause from Dec 24 to 27. Thank you for your patience. We're working as quickly as we can.

Site 5 (21km east of Spences Bridge)



Before



Progress made

Site 21 (Rattlesnake Bridge)



Before



Progress made

Site 22 (Curnow Bridge)



Before



Progress made



The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure publishes these newsletters for residents weekly. See digital copies and the latest updates at:

<https://www.tranbc.ca/current-travel-advisories/>

Directory

Highway 8 General Enquiries

- highway8.information@gov.bc.ca
- 250-378-1452

Highway 8 Team

- Jennifer Fraser, Executive Project Director, MOTI
- Shawn Clough, Project Director, MOTI
- Jonathan Melvin, Project Manager
- Dawn Drummond, Director, Indigenous Relations, Southern Interior Region, MOTI
- Brad Bushill, Thompson Nicola District, Operations Manager, MOTI

Emergency Management BC

- 1-833-376-2452 (daily 7:30am to 5:00pm)
- www.emergencyinfobc.gov.bc.ca

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), Cascades District:

- forests.cascadesdistrictoffice@gov.bc.ca
- 1-800-665-1511

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)

BC Office

- 604-775-5100 (Monday to Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm)

Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) - Emergency Operations Centre

- 250-377-7188
- 1-866-377-7188
- emergency@tnrd.ca

Disaster Financial Assistance

- DFA@gov.bc.ca
- 1-888-257-4777
- <https://www2.gov.bc.ca>

Canadian Red Cross

- 1-800-863-6582 (daily 8:00am to 8:00pm)
- www.registration.redcross.ca

Fish and wildlife protection

Protecting fish and wildlife continues to be a priority at all work sites.

- At Site 5 (21km east of Spences Bridge), we continue to recover and relocate fish every day.
- We recently recovered an additional 27 fish at Site 21 (Rattlesnake Bridge).
- We take care to balance both worker safety and environmentally safe work sites. We are also providing environmental training to local residents to increase local hiring.



Releasing salvaged fish into the Nicola River

Important resident information

More details for residents are coming soon

We will be holding informational meetings for residents in the new year to share more details about the long-term schedule and forecast for Highway 8 repairs. Details about these meetings are to come. Thank you for your patience.

I believe access is restored in my area. Can I return?

Before returning to any areas along Highway 8, please contact your Band administration or TNRD for the latest information on access restrictions and protocols.

When will the evacuation order be lifted?

There are multiple authorities along the affected parts of the Highway 8 corridor, including the Cook's Ferry and Shackan bands (members of the Nlaka'pamux First Nation) and properties that are part of the Thompson-Nicola Regional District. Each authority will manage the Evacuation Orders in their respective areas. Going forward, these orders will be adjusted on a case-by-case basis based on the restoration of access and services to different areas and whether they are safe for people to return to. Communities will work and communicate with each other to ensure security is aware of anticipated access and travel changes.