

HIGHWAY 8

INFORMATION & UPDATES



Ministry of
Transportation
and Infrastructure

Infrastructure update prepared for residents
For the weeks of October 20 to October 30, 2022

Progress Report

No. of Sites	21	9
	Temp. Repairs Complete	Work Underway

Temporary repairs are complete at 21 locations. Work is underway at the remaining 9 sites, which include four sites from the August debris flows.

Thanks to the great work of our crews, temporary repairs at the remaining damage sites are progressing and we are getting closer to being able to open Highway 8 to the public. We anticipate being able to share further details on the reopening of Highway 8 soon.

Winter Driving Conditions: Plan Ahead

When Highway 8 reopens to the public and we move into the winter season, drivers will need to pay close attention to the changing road conditions. As previously noted, Highway 8 will be different than it used to be when it reopens. With different surface materials (pavement and gravel) drivers will need to be extra diligent during winter weather and storms, as conditions may vary on different surfaces. As Ministry crews work to maintain the route during snow events by ploughing and treating with sands & salts, the gravel sections will likely have compact snow that remains.

We ask drivers to follow all posted signage, including areas of reduced speed, and always drive to current conditions. It is recommended to visit the [DriveBC website](#) for current road conditions prior to travelling and to keep an emergency kit in your car. Please note that as of October 1st, [BC Designated Winter Tire and Chain Routes](#) are in effect and drivers are required by law to have winter tires (snowflake or M+S symbol) on their vehicle until March 31st on Highway 8.

Once opened, Highway 8 will be available for use both by passenger and commercial traffic. However, as Highway 8 will remain a construction zone with gravel sections and single-lane temporary bridges, it will not yet be in a condition where it can be used as a detour route for large volumes of traffic. Therefore, in the event that Highway 1 (Trans-Canada) or Highway 5 (Coquihalla) experiences a major closure, Highway 8 will be closed as a detour for public through-traffic, including commercial vehicles, between Spences Bridge and the N'kwala Recreation Site (17kms West of Merritt). MoTI will be working with local Indigenous Communities and the Thompson Nicola Regional District (TNRD) to provide access passes and ensure local residents maintain access to their properties in this scenario.



The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure publishes these newsletters for residents bi-weekly. See digital copies and the latest updates at: gov.bc.ca/highway8recovery

Directory

Highway 8 Team at the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI)

- General enquiries: 250-378-1452 or highway8.information@gov.bc.ca
- Jennifer Fraser, Executive Project Director
- Shawn Clough, Project Director
- Jonathan Melvin, Project Manager
- Dawn Drummond, Director, Indigenous Relations, Southern Interior Region
- Brad Bushill, Thompson Nicola District, Operations Manager

Merritt Support Centre

- #102-1700 Garcia St (Railyard Mall) Merritt, B.C. V1K 1B8
- 1-877-655-0341
- returnhome@merritt.ca

Emergency Management BC (EMBC)

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

Ministry of Forests, Cascades District

- forests.cascadesdistrictoffice@gov.bc.ca
- 250-378-8400

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)

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

Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) Emergency Operations Centre

- 250-377-7188 or 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

Ministry of Agriculture and Food (AF)

- 1-888-332-3352
- AgriRecovery@gov.bc.ca

Latest Repair Updates

Site 3B - Gordon Creek (27.4km west of Mamit Junction)



Site 3B Before (Aug-24-2022)



Site 3B Progress (Oct-02-2022)

Site 3B was damaged in August 2022 after heavy precipitation triggered multiple debris flows along the Highway 8 corridor. Emergency/ construction access has been established and repair works are ongoing. Crews have recently installed twin culverts (tunnel-like structures that allow water to flow under the road) to better accommodate drainage through this area. Crews are also continuing to place rocky material (riprap) along the embankment to protect against erosion.

Site 11 (12km east of Spences Bridge)



Site 11 Before (Jun-12-2022)



Site 11 Progress (Oct-10-2022)

The November 2021 Atmospheric River event caused five different washouts over a 1.5-kilometre segment of Highway 8 through Site 11. Emergency/ construction access has been established and crews are building up the roadway and placing riprap between the highway and the Nicola River. Works are ongoing.

Site 13 (10.8km east of Spences Bridge)



Site 13 Before (May-19-2022)



Site 13 Progress (Oct-11-2022)

Site 13 suffered a 300-metre washout after the November flooding, and as a result both lanes of the highway were lost. Emergency/ construction access has been established and repair works are ongoing.

For general enquiries, please email highway8.information@gov.bc.ca or call 250-378-1452. We aim to reply within 24 hours. Thank you for your patience.



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