

## INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

**Month: April 2021**

**Project Region: BC Interior  
Spread 5A**

**Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 26**

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:  
KP 806–885 of Spread 5A**

### **Indigenous Monitors on the Trans Mountain Expansion Project – Overview**

The Trans Mountain Expansion Project (the Project) has retained Indigenous Monitors as integrated members of its construction Environmental Inspection team. Indigenous Monitors work with Environmental Inspectors to monitor compliance with mitigation measures to minimize impacts to traditional resource use and cultural/heritage sites during construction. Indigenous Monitors have a strategic role in providing traditional knowledge directly and pragmatically to construction oversight practices and bring an Indigenous lens to daily environmental inspection activities.

This Overview Report provides highlights of the Indigenous Monitors' day-to-day work and key mitigation measures observed by the Monitors related to Project construction in the BC Interior Region. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Indigenous Monitor activity to Indigenous groups.

During this reporting period, key activities in the BC Interior Region involving Indigenous Monitors took place from KP 806 to 885 in Spread 5a and included monitoring environmental features, sediment control measures, topsoil stripping and grading, and culturally modified tree assessments. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for April 2021, which reports environmental events and deficiencies in Tables 4 and 5 respectively, is found [here](#).

**For more information: email [info@transmountain.com](mailto:info@transmountain.com) or call 1.866.514.6700.**

### **Trans Mountain COVID-19 – Our Response**

Trans Mountain is actively monitoring the COVID-19 situation with the help of federal, provincial and local agencies. Trans Mountain's top priority remains the health and safety of its workforce, their families and our communities. Trans Mountain and its construction contractors are working diligently together to adhere to all advice and direction from government and health officials, while ensuring the safe uninterrupted operation of the Trans Mountain Pipeline and the continued, safe construction of the Expansion Project. Measures being undertaken at construction sites include: temperature screening; following physical distancing guidelines, staggering work shifts and breaks; eliminating or minimizing in-person meetings; enhancing cleaning and sanitizing; and ensuring workers' orientation includes COVID 19 expectations, awareness and prevention.

**For more information: [transmountain.com/covid19](https://transmountain.com/covid19)**

## Traditional Land Use (TLU) Sites

During construction, cultural use areas are noted along the right-of-way. Such locations have been identified during traditional use studies conducted by Indigenous groups prior to construction. As part of the Environmental Protection Plan, there is a Traditional Land Use Sites Discovery Contingency Plan which outlines steps to take in the event previously unidentified TLU sites are identified during construction.

Indigenous Monitors monitored previously identified TLU areas along the right-of-way, ensuring mitigation was in place including signage and documentation of any current use.

Trans Mountain also facilitated tours for Indigenous visitors to observe construction activity and discuss the construction process, environmental mitigation measures and how the right-of-way will be reclaimed.



View near Lockie Lake.

## Environmental Features

Environmental features such as rare plants and rare ecological communities, wildlife species of concern, archeological features, Traditional Land Use (TLU) sites and any other sensitive environmental or cultural features that occur on or adjacent to the construction footprint are staked, flagged and sometimes fenced prior to commencing construction. The features are clearly marked so they can be protected during construction.

The Indigenous Monitors inspected environmentally sensitive areas to ensure the flagging/staking and signage remains in place, the appropriate mitigations are being followed, such as clearly marking all identified areas. South of Nobel Lake, a deficiency was identified by an Indigenous Monitor. They documented and reported the missing sign to the Environmental Inspector and Construction Contractor who corrected the deficiency by re-installing the sign.



Flagging observed near KP 824.



Signage observed near KP 821.

## Sediment Control

Site-specific sediment control measures are implemented to prevent sediment-laden runoff from entering watercourses. The Indigenous Monitors inspect the right-of-way periodically during clearing to ensure sediment control measures are in place.

Near Nobel Lake, the Indigenous Monitors observed workers maintaining sediment fencing that was installed. Proper installation of sediment fencing was recommended and implemented immediately by the contractor. The Indigenous Monitors identified signage and flagging and noted proper biosecurity measures being followed. There were no concerns identified at this location.



Water pump-off to mitigate sediment-laden runoff near KP 822.

## Topsoil Stripping and Grading

At KP 822, topsoil stripping and grading activities are taking place. When removing topsoil, there are many required mitigations including the inspection of topsoil pile(s) to ensure they are within the survey limits of the right-of-way and no soil has gone outside these limits.

The Indigenous Monitors have been involved in monitoring and inspecting such topsoil stripping mitigations. They also inspect the cleared area to investigate any potential chance finds that could be unearthed. No issues or chance finds were identified.



Topsoil stripping near KP 822. It was noted that piles were properly labelled and packed per the Environmental Protection Plan.

## Indigenous Monitor Request Dashboard

Indigenous Monitors are provided with daily on-site field support from Environmental Inspectors and office support from Indigenous Monitor Coordinators. Indigenous Monitors can also make specific support requests or submit questions through their daily report. Examples include but are not limited to: request for Project reports, input from an environmental resource specialist or on-site support from an Elder or other cultural knowledge holder. Monthly requests and their completion status are noted below.

Status	Rolling Total and Type of Requests				
	Project Reports/Documents	Environmental Resource Specialists	Elder/Cultural Knowledge Holder	Other	Total
Total	6	0	2	0	8
Fulfilled	6	-	1	-	7
Outstanding	-	-	1	-	1

This report has been reviewed by the active Indigenous Monitor(s)

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