# INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: August 2020 Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 21

Project Region: BC Interior Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:

Spread 5a (Kamloops Urban Area) KP 838–846 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 in the Kamloops Urban Area in Spread 5a and included monitoring environmental features, Traditional Land Use site monitoring and monitoring right-of-way clearing.

For more information: email 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

## TRANSMOUNTAIN

#### **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 by Resource Specialist crews prior to commencing construction. The features are clearly marked so they can be avoided and/or protected during construction.

The Indigenous Monitor conducted inspections in Spread 5a Kamloops Urban Area (KUA) in areas of known environmental features to check on flagging/marking and to verify buffer zones are the correct distances. Indigenous Monitors also monitor that construction activities adhere to the boundaries of the markers.



Environmentally sensitive area flagged with signage.

## Traditional Land Use Site Monitoring

Traditional Land Use areas have been identified through information and studies provided by Indigenous groups over multiple years of Project assessment and planning. During pre-construction survey activities, previously identified Traditional Land Use areas are marked with flagging ribbon by Resource Specialist crews during the environmental flagging and staking program. Signage is also installed to indicate to construction crews where areas are not to be entered.

The Indigenous Monitor on Spread 5a inspected Traditional Land Use areas to verify the stakes and boundaries were in place. Ongoing monitoring and inspections will be conducted at such sites as construction continues.

The Indigenous Monitor also participated in preconstruction harvesting activity in areas of Crown land along the Spread 5a right-of-way (ROW) in late July.



Stakes and ribbon used to mark TLU sites.

## Right-of-Way (ROW) Clearing

Project ROW clearing is a key part of early construction activity and involves the removal of trees and vegetation (like Sagebrush in the KUA) in areas along the pipeline. During this process, the surveyed Project ROW is cleared by removing the trees and brush. Then the topsoil is stripped, salvaged and stored along the edge of the ROW so it can be spread back out during reclamation.

The Indigenous Monitor on Spread 5a performed inspection and monitoring of clearing activities along the ROW.



Topsoil stripping on the KUA ROW.

### **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	Number and Type of Requests				
	Project Reports/Documents	Environmental Resource Specialists	Elder/Cultural Know ledge Holder	Other	Total
Total	3	0	0	0	3
Fulfilled	3	-	-	-	3
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

