

## INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

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**Month: December 2020**

**Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 15**

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

**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 included monitoring cultural sites, topsoil stripping and erosion and sediment control. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for December 2020, 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)**

## Topsoil Stripping

Project right-of-way clearing is part of early construction activity and involves the removal of trees and vegetation in areas along the pipeline right-of-way. During this process, the surveyed Project right-of-way is cleared by removing the trees and brush. The topsoil is then salvaged and stored along the edge of the Project right-of-way so it can be spread back out during reclamation. During the winter months, snow removal is also part of clearing activity.

Near O'Connor Lake Road at KP 819, the Indigenous Monitors monitored the following:

- Flagging of suitable live staking (saplings) to be replanted during reclamation activities
- Stripping and piling of subsoil against topsoil with adequate separation, ensuring proper signage and buffers near red no go zone areas



Monitoring flagging and buffer zones at KP 819.



Soil stripping and separation piles near KP 819.

## 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.



Environmentally sensitive site monitored for proper signage and buffers.

## Erosion and Sediment Control

Erosion and sediment control (ESC) measures were monitored near KP 844 to mitigate erosion and sediment transport from construction sites to downstream areas and watercourses. On-site ESC mitigations may include sediment fences, swales, wattles, rock armouring, erosion control blankets and hydroseeding, as well as water drainage control measures. Key areas where ESC measures are required include soil excavations, exposed slopes, soil stockpiles and locations near watercourses.

At Kenna Cartwright Park, Indigenous Monitors inspected tackifier applications on topsoil piles and exposed slopes. No issues were identified for the road construction and ESC in the area.



Hydroseeding activities at an exposed slope near KP 844.

## 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 Knowledge Holder	Other	Total
Total	6	0	0	0	6
Fulfilled	6	-	-	-	6
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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