

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: November 2021

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 26

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

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
KP 806–927**

Indigenous Monitors on the Trans Mountain Expansion Project – Overview

The Trans Mountain Expansion Project (the Project or TMEP) 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 927 in Spread 5A and included monitoring temporary construction lands, bore pad construction, erosion and sediment control measures and culturally modified tree chance finds. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for November 2021, which reports environmental events and deficiencies in Tables 4 and 5 respectively, is found [here](#).

The Project has a process for sharing information related to potential Traditional Land Use (TLU) and Heritage Resource chance finds during construction. The [Protecting TLU and Cultural Heritage Resources Fact Sheet \(link here\)](#) provides an overview of the chance find communication process. Applicable Indigenous groups are notified and engaged directly on potential chance finds.

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.

For more information: transmountain.com/covid19

Temporary Construction Lands

Temporary construction lands and infrastructure are defined for the Project as preparatory works to support Project construction and include temporary camps, stockpile sites, equipment staging areas and borrow pits, as well as works on access roads within the first 10 km of each designated construction spread. Many of the sites addressed in the Temporary Construction Lands and Infrastructure Environmental Protection Plan are on lands that have been previously developed.

A joint inspection was conducted by the Environmental Inspector (EI) and Indigenous Monitor (IM) at the Mission Flats laydown yard. At the yard, garbage was identified and removed near the above-ground storage tank. Ponding was noted at the yard due to a post-rain event, however, no water was observed leaving the yard. The IM documented and reported insufficient segregation of waste materials. The yard attendant was notified and addressed the deficiency during the inspection. No further follow up action was required for the inspection.



Inspecting waste management at Mission Flats.



Garbage identified near the above-ground storage tank.

Extreme Weather Conditions

In response to heavy rainfall and extreme weather conditions that occurred in mid-November, Trans Mountain safely shut down its operating pipeline. The pipeline remained shut down due to widespread flooding and debris flows in British Columbia and Washington state.

Construction on the Trans Mountain Expansion Project stood down in the Fraser Valley, Coquihalla and Interior regions of BC affected by the weather event. Construction resumed in northern portions of the BC interior region after determining it was safe and practical to do so. IMs focused their attention around their impacted communities, training courses and on the northern portion of the spread where the Trans Mountain Expansion Project was able to continue construction.

Our thoughts are with the communities and people affected by the flooding.



Strengthening berm for diversion --- Coldwater.

Bore Pad Construction near Jacko Lake

Near Jacko Lake, crews are constructing the bore pad for trenchless crossing activities. Trenchless crossings are used to safely cross underneath roads and railways, minimizing the impact to users. These techniques are also used for many watercourses and environmentally sensitive areas.

At KP 852, the topsoil was stripped and segregated and grading activities commenced. The IM identified a light tower missing a drip tray. The deficiency was documented and corrective action was applied by the foreman on-site. No surface staining was observed.

The Indigenous Monitor participated in inspections focused on appropriate signage and flagging, and ensuring equipment was cleaned and free of vegetation and debris. Disturbed soil was inspected and no potential heritage resource chance finds were identified.



Bore pad construction at KP 852 near Jacko Lake.



Topsoil storage piles at KP 852 near Jacko Lake.

Erosion and Sediment Control

Erosion and sediment control (ESC) measures are monitored and inspected to ensure they are functioning as intended to mitigate erosion and sediment transport from construction sites to downstream areas, including watercourses and the marine environment. On-site ESC mitigations include sediment fences, swales, wattles, straw, polyethylene sheeting, coco matting and hydroseeding, as well as water drainage control measures.

After the heavy rainfall and extreme weather conditions in mid-November, the Indigenous Monitors alongside the Environmental Inspector checked ESC measures in construction areas that were safely accessible. At KP 862, ESC measures were monitored and deficiencies were documented to the EI on-site. Corrective action was addressed by the EI and contractor. Near Moore Creek at KP 889, the Indigenous Monitors observed erosion and sediment control mitigations in good standing condition. Silt fencing, hoses and pumps were also identified to be in good condition.



KP 862, near Goose Lake Road, silt fencing deficiency identified and corrective action applied.



At KP 888 near Moore Creek. Elevated pump in bore bellhole and hoses.

Culturally Modified Trees (CMT)

Resource-Specific Mitigation Tables and Environmental Alignment Sheets are used to illustrate locations of and summarize specified mitigation for previously identified historical resources and TLU areas. Such locations have been identified via TLU studies conducted by Indigenous groups and archaeology baseline assessments that have been conducted in relation to the Project for more than seven years. In the event a site or location is observed in the field that may be a previously unidentified TLU area, the TLU Site Discovery Contingency Plan is followed.

Near the Coldwater West Alternative Route, the Indigenous Monitor participated in the implementation of the TLU Site Discovery Contingency Plan in areas where trees were identified that were thought to be potentially culturally modified. Indigenous Monitors continued to conduct CMT sweeps ahead of construction activity. Trees found during a CMT sweep were examined by the Indigenous Monitors and Environmental Inspectors on-site to collect initial information. The area was flagged off for additional evaluation. Resource Specialists and Knowledge Holders of Indigenous Monitor's communities were contacted for evaluation of the tree and potential mitigation. The engagement process with Indigenous groups was initiated to share information about the resource and seek feedback. The tree was determined to be culturally modified. A buffer was placed around the tree and continued avoidance was recommended.



General area near the Coldwater Reroute where CMT sweeps were conducted.

TLU Site Monitoring

TLU 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 TLU areas are marked with flagging ribbon by Resource Specialist crews during the environmental flagging and staking program. Signage is also installed to indicate restricted activity throughout the right-of-way.

Around KP 858, Environmental Inspectors and Indigenous Monitors inspected TLU sites to verify the staking and signage were properly installed. No



Inspecting installed signage at environmentally sensitive sites.

deficiencies were identified during the inspection. Ongoing monitoring by the Indigenous Monitors continues to ensure protection and avoidance measures remain accurate at such sites.

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	1	8	0	15
Fulfilled	6	1	8	-	15
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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