

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: August 2021

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 24

**Project Region: Coquihalla Hope
Spread 5B**

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
KP 990–1075**

Indigenous Monitors on the Trans Mountain Expansion Project – Overview

The Trans Mountain Expansion Project (the Project or TMEP) is retaining 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 Coquihalla Hope 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 Coquihalla Hope Region involving Indigenous Monitors took place from KP 990 to 1075 in Spread 5B and included monitoring soil stripping and grading, Traditional Land Use (TLU) mitigation, cleaning stations and heritage resource activities. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for August 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 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

Soil Stripping and Grading

At KP 1056, topsoil stripping and grading activities are taking place. When removing topsoil, there are several 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. Appropriate construction equipment must also be used during topsoil stripping when frozen ground conditions are encountered.

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 potential chance finds were identified.



Grading activities monitored near KP 1056.

Cleaning Stations

Biosecurity measures are designed to reduce the introduction or spread of noxious weeds and soil pathogens or other crop diseases from construction activities. Biosecurity mitigations include cleaning stations to manage the risks associated with invasive, noxious and prohibited noxious weeds. Cleaning stations are properly flagged and include signage. Some cleaning stations may include a wash station where a disinfectant composed of a bleach solution is used to disinfect equipment, tools and footwear.

At KP 1057, Indigenous Monitors noted appropriate signage, equipment cleaning material, properly built cleaning stations and good housekeeping. Utility crew members were observed brushing off boots and UTV tires before entering the right-of-way.



Cleaning station near KP 1057.

Heritage Resource Site

Resource-Specific Mitigation Tables and Environmental Alignment Sheets are used to identify 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 conducted over many years of Project planning.

The Indigenous Monitor observed the implementation of an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) conducted near KP 1044. The assessment, completed by a qualified archaeologist and Indigenous participants, may include visual inspection to identify features with predictable archaeological potential, surface inspection of areas with exposed sediments for cultural materials and subsurface testing of terrain features exhibiting archaeological potential.

In the event that an archaeological site is found, Trans Mountain complete the applicable reporting and apply for the required permits in alignment with the *Heritage Conservation Act*. Ongoing AIA activities continue in the area with additional exploration activities underway.



Archaeological no-go zone near KP 1044.



Open excavation signage and barricade.

TLU Sites

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

Indigenous Monitors inspected previously identified TLU sites along the right-of-way, including but not limited to TLU-3108, STOLO-49, STOLO-75 STOLO-73 and STOLO-1614. Mitigation measures in place included signage, flagging and documentation of any current use.



Monitoring previously identified TLU sites along the right-of-way and near Road 27.




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 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 10 |
| Fulfilled | 8 | - | 2 | - | 10 |
| Outstanding | - | - | - | - | - |

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


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