

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: December 2020

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 15

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

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
KP 990–1074**

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 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 included topsoil and shrub salvage, bridge replacement and grading. 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 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

Topsoil and Shrub Salvage

Topsoil and root zone material are salvaged and stored from construction locations where ground disturbance occurs (i.e., excavation, grading, hydrovac). Soil salvage is required to avoid and reduce effects on soil productivity, surface drainage patterns, land use and wildlife habitat; and to conserve surface material in order to facilitate reclamation.

Near Popkum Park, Indigenous Monitors observed mitigation during construction activities including;

- Flagging of suitable shrubs to be replanted during reclamation activities
- Stripping and piling of subsoil against topsoil with adequate buffers
- Ensuring proper signage and buffers near sensitive environmental features



Popkum Park topsoil stripping and soil salvage near KP 1074.

Bridge Replacement

Bridges have been replaced over watercourse crossings and wetlands near Corbett Creek. Indigenous Monitors observed mitigation measures during bridge installation which included installation and maintenance of erosion and sediment control measures to avoid or minimize erosion and the potential discharge of sediment or other substances into any nearby watercourses, wetlands, lakes or connecting drainage systems.

The Indigenous Monitors also reviewed TMEP's bridge cleaning process, foot traffic protocols and observed the use of filter cloth and rig mats for bridge protection.



Corbett Creek bridge replacement complete over the Coquihalla River at KP 1030.

Grading

Near KP 1074, right-of-way grading is taking place. During this process, construction crews level out the ground to provide a sturdy and safe foundation for construction activities. Grading is also used to direct the flow of runoff water and mitigate soil erosion.

The Indigenous Monitors were involved in monitoring and inspecting the grading activities. The Indigenous Monitors also walk in transects along the cleared area to investigate any potential chance finds that could be unearthed. There were no chance finds discovered during the monitoring activities.



Grading activities near KP 1074.

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	2	0	2	0	4
Fulfilled	2	-	2	-	4
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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