

## INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

**Month: May 2021**

**Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 26**

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

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:  
KP 1020–1075**

### **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 took place from KP 1020 to 1075 in Spread 5B and included monitoring snail exclusion fencing, pump stations, topsoil stripping and backfilling, Traditional Land Use (TLU) mitigations and implementing the Heritage Resource chance find procedures. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for May 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](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. 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 and Backfill

Topsoil stripping, pipe installation and backfill activities continue in Spread 5A. When removing topsoil, key mitigation requirements include inspection of topsoil piles 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 noted mitigations for the topsoil piles to reduce erosion potential including grading, applying tackifiers and reducing ponding. Inspections were conducted for the excavated soil placed in the trench over the installed pipe. The Indigenous Monitors observed sand and subsoil being backfilled over the pipe prior to topsoil being replaced and ensure backfill activities are confined to the construction right-of-way. No issues or chance finds were identified.



Backfilling activities near KP 1074.

### Snail Exclusion Fencing

Resource Specialists on Spread 5B work to identify and relocate Oregon Forest snails from the Project right-of-way. The salvage was conducted before construction activities commenced and during a period where snails are likely to be active and easier to find on the surface. Exclusion fencing was installed to deter snails from the active right-of-way.

The Indigenous Monitors inspected the fencing and observed the Resource Specialist team conducting the salvage. A hole was identified, documented, and corrected in the exclusion fencing. Follow up inspections were conducted. Exclusion fencing and mitigation measures were followed and verified per the Environmental Protection Plan.



Holes identified in the snail exclusion fencing. IM and EI documented and corrected deficiency. Near KP 1053.

## Heritage Resource Site Chance Find

Resource-Specific Mitigation Tables and Environmental Alignment Sheets are used to indicate locations of and summarize specified mitigation for previously identified historical resources and traditional land use areas. Such locations have been identified via traditional land use studies conducted by Indigenous groups and archaeology baseline assessments that have been conducted in relation to the Project for over seven years.

The Indigenous Monitor (IM) participated in the implementation of the Heritage Resource Site Discovery Contingency Plan where a potential depressional habitation area was discovered by the IM. The site was buffered 30 m to allow for ongoing assessments with the Resource Specialist (RS), IM and EI.

Trans Mountain initiated the communication process for chance finds of Traditional Land Use and Heritage Resources sites outlined in approved CER documents (e.g., Environmental Protection Plan, Resource Specific Mitigation Table). Further inspections were conducted near the area by the EI, IM and archaeologist, no additional chance finds were identified.

The find was found not to be an archaeological site.



Flagging to indicate construction no-go area, while ongoing Heritage Resource Site Discovery Contingency Plan protocols take place.

## Pump Station Inspections

As part of the Trans Mountain Expansion Project, 12 new pump stations are being added to the pipeline system, 11 for the new pipeline and one for the existing pipeline. Pump stations are a critical component of the operations of the pipeline system. They contain electric motors to drive the pumps that maintain the pressure and flow rate in the pipeline.

Construction activities and Indigenous Monitor inspections for the Hope pressure control station will commence in June 2021.



Access road at Hope pressure station.



Laydown yard at Hope pressure station.



### Traditional Land Use (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, there is a Traditional Land Use Sites Discovery Contingency Plan which outlines steps to take if 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.



Signage and boundary markers confirmed at TLU 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       | 8                                  | 0                                  | 2                               | 0     | 10    |
| Fulfilled   | 8                                  | -                                  | 2                               | -     | 10    |
| Outstanding | -                                  | -                                  | -                               | -     | -     |

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

### CONTACT US:

Trans Mountain

 [info@transmountain.com](mailto:info@transmountain.com)

 1.866.514.6700

 [transmountain.com](http://transmountain.com)



 @TransMtn



[youtube.com/transmtn](https://www.youtube.com/transmtn)



PO Box 81018  
Burnaby, BC V5H 3B0

