

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: November 2021

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 25

**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) 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 990 to 1075 in Spread 5B and included monitoring heritage resource sites, Traditional Land Use (TLU) mitigation, extreme weather events and erosion and sediment control measures. 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 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

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.

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 to construction crews where areas are not to be entered.

Near KP 1046, Indigenous Monitors inspected TLU areas and archaeological sites to verify the staking and boundaries. Some sites included but are not limited to STOLO-175, STOLO-941 and STOLO-1614. A deficiency was documented identifying a broken stake and corrective action was applied to ensure accurate boundaries. Ongoing monitoring by the Indigenous Monitors continue at such sites.



Ongoing AIA activities near KP 1046.

Extreme Weather Conditions

In response to heavy rainfall and extreme weather conditions that occurred in mid-November, Trans Mountain safely shut down the operating pipeline as a voluntary, precautionary measure. The pipeline remained shut down through remainder of November due to widespread flooding and debris flows in British Columbia and Washington state.

Construction on the Trans Mountain Expansion Project (TMEP) stood down in the Fraser Valley, Coquihalla and Interior regions of BC affected by the weather event. Construction stopped for the remainder of November in the Coquihalla region. During the halt in TMEP construction, Indigenous Monitors focused their attention around their impacted communities and training courses.

Our thoughts are with the communities and people affected by the flooding. Trans Mountain has offered our support and assistance in any way we can, including offering beds at our camp community in Merritt to evacuees.



Crews and equipment working to clear debris on Highway 1.

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 1057, ESC measures were monitored and deficiencies were documented to the EI on-site. Ongoing corrective actions are being implemented to manage the flooded areas.



Flooded site at KP 1057.

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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