

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: July 2021

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 22

Project Region: Edmonton (Spread 1)

Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored: 1–48

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 Edmonton Region. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Indigenous Monitor activity to Indigenous groups.

During this reporting period, key Project activities in the Edmonton Region involving Indigenous Monitors were focused around KP 1–48 and included sediment control, monitoring environmental features, spill prevention and Edmonton Terminal inspection. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for June 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

Removal of Noise Suppression

As construction activities are completed in areas of Spread 1, the contractors work toward reclaiming previously disturbed areas. Among the first of these efforts is to remove the sound walls installed near a residential area in West Edmonton.

Sound walls, or noise barriers, are structures designed to buffer noise resulting from construction activity. Installing temporary sound walls is a measure to mitigate noise impacts to residents from construction projects. Indigenous Monitors observed the disassembly of sound walls, safety practices and housekeeping measures.

The sound wall remained in place for the duration of construction activity. Other noise mitigations implemented include maintaining noise suppression on heavy equipment, and scheduling construction activity during daytime hours.



Sound wall removal around KP 46.

Wildlife Management

While conducting site monitoring, the Indigenous Monitors reported wildlife sightings to the Environmental Inspector. They also participated in discussions with the Environmental Inspection team relating to wildlife protection strategies and inspected mitigation measures like environmental feature signage and buffers are effectively in place.

Indigenous Monitors also participated in wildlife sweeps including migratory nesting bird sweeps alongside the Trans Mountain Resource Specialist. Nesting birds that require protection include species of migratory birds and those listed federally and/or provincially. All active nests occupied by any species of bird or its eggs require protection and are to be avoided. The Indigenous Monitors observed appropriate signage in place at KP 41.5, ensuring construction activities do not interfere with the birds.



Wildlife signage in place at KP 41.5.

Erosion and Sediment Control

Erosion and sediment control (ESC) measures were monitored near KP 44 to mitigate soil erosion and sediment transport from construction sites to downstream areas and waterbodies. On-site ESC mitigations may include sediment fences, swales, wattles, rock armouring, erosion control blankets and hydroseeding, as well as water drainage control measures. Key areas where ESC measures are required include soil excavations, exposed slopes, soil stockpiles and locations near watercourses. The Indigenous Monitors observed all compliance objectives relating to ESC were being met.



Sediment fence at KP 44.

Vegetation Management

Trans Mountain conducts routine vegetation management on the right-of-way and at facilities. Trans Mountain is responsible for managing problem vegetation including:

- Noxious weeds that pose a hazard to people, animals or crops.
- Invasive weeds, which are plants that have been introduced into the environment that threaten naturally occurring and indigenous plants.

The Indigenous Monitor and Environmental Inspector reported scentless chamomile (noxious weed) at KP 43. The Indigenous Monitor and Environmental Inspector reported the deficiency and notified the team in charge of the herbicide application. The Environmental Inspector worked collaboratively with the contractor to remove the weeds by applying herbicide. The Indigenous Monitor continues to participate in followup inspections for this area.



Herbicide sprayers near KP 41, spraying scentless chamomile and leafy spurge.

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	0	0	0	0	0
Fulfilled	-	-	-	-	-
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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