

# INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

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**Month: July 2021**

**Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 20**

**Project Region: Fraser Valley**

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:  
1077–1112**

## **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 impacts 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 Lower Mainland. 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 Fraser Valley region involving Indigenous Monitors included construction on Spread 6 and at Sumas Terminal. Activities included construction site housekeeping, wildlife management and pre-construction walkthroughs for traditional land use (TLU) sites. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for July 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.

**For more information: [transmountain.com/covid19](https://transmountain.com/covid19)**

### Construction Site Housekeeping (Spill response)

The Indigenous Monitors conduct inspections at various construction areas for general housekeeping measures. This includes observing and documenting garbage and recycling disposal, scrap metal management, waste storage and secondary containment of fuel and other hydrocarbons. Secondary containment measures include, but are not limited to, drip trays under inactive vehicles and equipment, and drip trays placed under hydrocarbon containers like gasoline and diesel, and paint aerosol spray cans. If a deficiency is observed the contractor is notified immediately.

At Sumas Terminal the Indigenous Monitor observed the deployment of the Contaminated Soil Discovery Site Contingency Plan for historic contamination in the Tank 104 area. Soils were excavated and characterized through the contractor's contaminated soils specialist and the contaminated material was contained and transported off-site to a Trans Mountain approved disposal facility.



Example of effective secondary containment for a hydrocarbon container at Sumas Terminal observed by the Indigenous Monitor.

### Wildlife Observation and Management

The Indigenous Monitors participated in discussions relating to wildlife protection strategies with the Environmental Inspectors and Trans Mountain Wildlife Resource Specialists and monitored pre-construction activity wildlife sweeps. The Indigenous Monitors observed the Resource Specialist conducting wildlife baseline surveys as part of pre-construction activities. This included sweeps for Western Painted Turtles along watercourse shorelines. One of the Western Painted Turtle wildlife sweeps included scanning for turtles with stops every 20 m to scan using binoculars for basking turtles along the shoreline, logs or surface of the Sumas Canal near KP 1108 and KP 1112.4. No turtles were identified during these sweeps.

At Sumas Terminal wildlife sweeps were also conducted by the Trans Mountain Resource Specialist. A nest previously identified was deemed inactive and removed at Area G. The Indigenous Monitor also observed black bears and deer on the outside perimeter terminal fence line.



Sumas Canal KP 1108.3, an area where the wildlife sweep was conducted.

## Environmental Features/Traditional Land Use Sites

TLU areas have been identified through information and studies provided by Indigenous groups over several years of Project assessment and planning. During pre-construction activities on Spread 6, previously identified TLU sites, including culturally modified trees (CMTs), will be marked with flagging ribbon by Resource Specialist crews during the environmental flagging and staking program.

The Indigenous Monitors performed pre-activity walk-throughs with the Environmental Inspector at KP1076.600 to KP1077.100, looking for any potential previously unidentified TLU sites and features including CMTs. No CMTs or other previously unidentified TLU sites were identified.



Tree stump identified during pre-construction walk-through at KP1077+200.




## Indigenous Monitor Request Dashboard

Indigenous Monitors are provided 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	-	-	-	-	0
Outstanding	0	-	-	-	0

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

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