INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: January 2023

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 26

Project Region: BC Interior Spread 5A

Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored: KP 806–974

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 BC Interior 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 BC Interior Region involving Indigenous Monitors took place from KP 806 to 974 in Spread 5A and included monitoring site housekeeping, erosion and sediment control, topsoil removal, watercourse crossing construction and hydrostatic testing. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for January 2022, which reports environmental events and deficiencies in Tables 4 and 5 respectively, is found here.

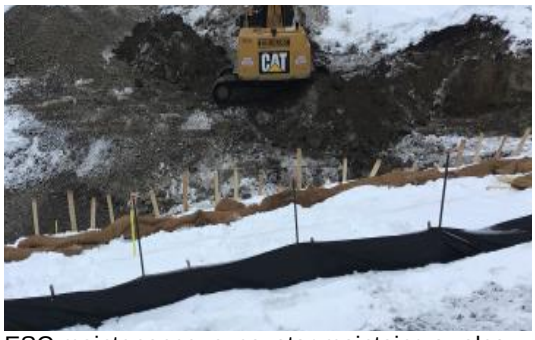
The Project has a process for sharing information related to potential Traditional Land Use (TLU) and Heritage Resource chance finds during construction. The Protecting TLU and Cultural Heritage Resources Fact Sheet (link here) provides an overview of the chance find communication process. Applicable Indigenous groups are notified and engaged directly on potential chance finds.

For more information: email info@transmountain.com or call 1.866.514.6700.

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, hydroseeding, as well as water drainage control measures.

The Indigenous Monitors alongside the Environmental Inspector checked ESC measures along the right-of-way. Near Klup Creek at KP 899, the Indigenous Monitors observed maintenance activities on erosion and sediment control mitigations, including previously installed straw wattles to prevent slope erosion and sediment traps to reduce runoff water and allow sediment to settle before it's discharged. No concerns were identified.



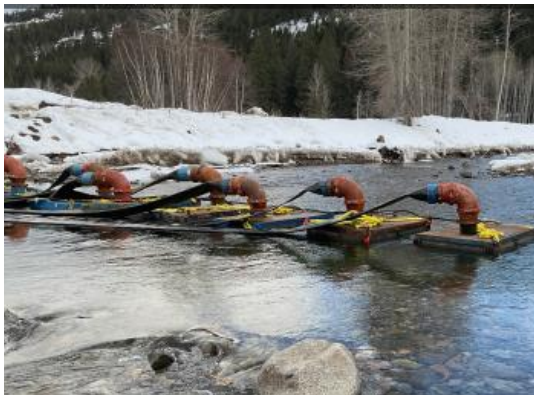
ESC maintenance; excavator maintaing swales KP 899.

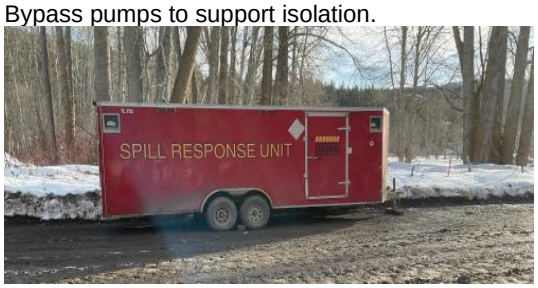
Coldwater River Watercourse Crossing

Isolated trenched pipeline crossing methodology includes temporarily rerouting the stream around the natural watercourse for a short duration while trenched construction occurs across the watercourse. Once the trench is constructed and the pipe is installed, the trench is backfilled and channel bed and banks are restored, and the water is returned to its natural channel.

At Coldwater River near KP 954, Indigenous Monitors observed watercourse crossing construction activities, including grading and workspace preparation along the banks, installation of bypass pumps and ESC measures.

Mitigations noted during monitoring included spill kits available on-site, spill trays used for fuel storage on-site and on-going water quality monitoring by qualified professionals. No concerns were identified.


Bypass pumps to support isolation.

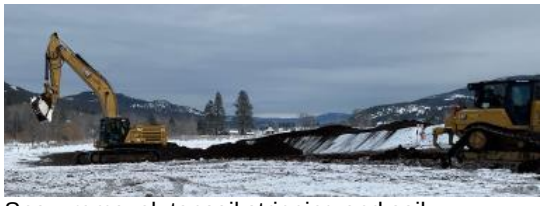


Spill response unit staged near construction activity.

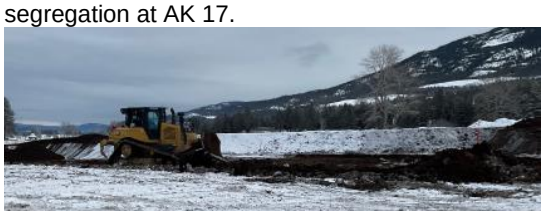
Topsoil Stripping

Topsoil stripping, pipe installation and backfill activities continue at Spread 5A. When removing soil in construction areas, required mitigation includes segregation of topsoil from root zone material, proper storage to reduce potential erosion, effective labelling and signage, and inspection of soil piles to ensure they are within the survey limits of the right-of-way and no soil has gone outside these limits.

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 ensured backfill activities were confined to the construction right-of-way. No issues or potential chance finds were identified.



Snow removal, topsoil stripping and soil segregation at AK 17.



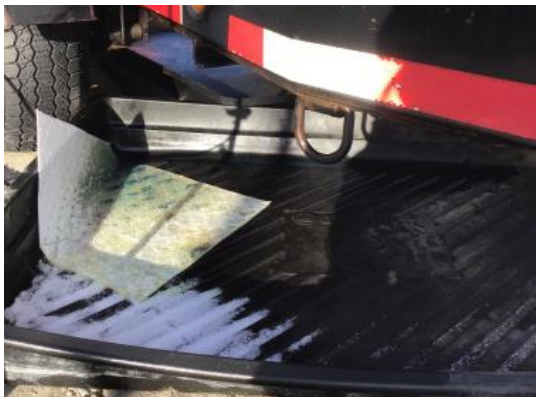
Grading activities at AK 17.

Pipe installation at KP 976.

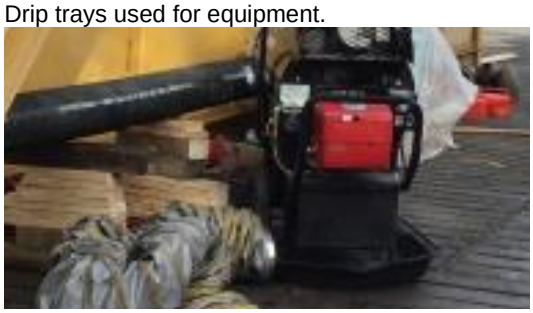
Site Housekeeping

The Indigenous Monitor conducted regular inspections throughout 5A for general housekeeping measures. This included observing and documenting garbage and recycling disposal, scrap metal management, waste storage and fuel storage (secondary containment).

Spill kits were inspected for volume and types of spill response material and to ensure the appropriate placement in relation to work fronts. Drip trays were inspected under stationary equipment to make sure they were present when parked. No concerns were identified.



Drip trays used for equipment.

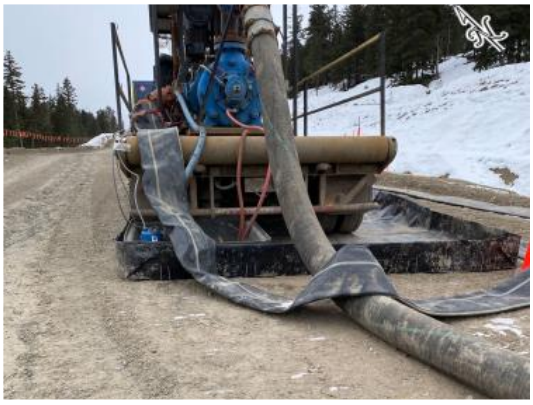


Drip trays used for equipment at KP 852

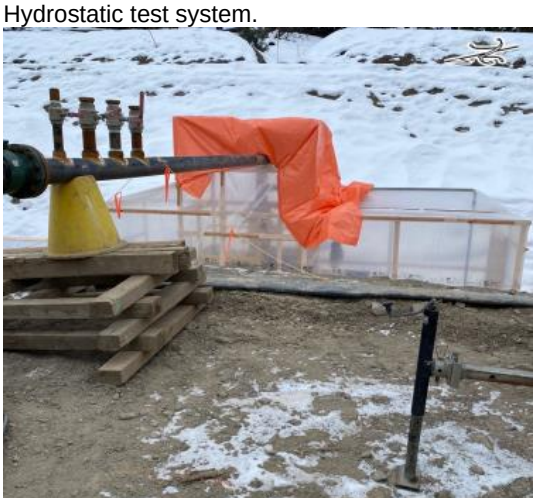
Hydrostatic Testing near Jacko Lake

Hydrostatic testing is one component of pipeline construction that contributes to the long-term integrity of the pipeline, as well as minimize the impact to the environment. Hydrostatic testing is used to verify the integrity of the pipeline prior to activation and use. This methodology is used to confirm the ability of the pipeline to operate safely and determine if any repairs are needed. The process includes filling the segment of pipe with water to pre-determined limits of pressure for an extended period.

Near Stump Lake, the Indigenous Monitors observed hydrostatic testing near KP 858. Safe work practices, including signage and fencing were noted. The ground near parked machinery was inspected for surface staining. No concerns were identified. Good housekeeping and proper waste management procedures were identified during the inspection. Environmental features at KP 858 near the active construction area were monitored for continued avoidance, appropriate signage and buffers. No concerns were identified.



Hydrostatic test system.



Hydrostatic test system.

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 requests 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	7	1	8	0	16
Fulfilled	7	1	8	-	16
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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