INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: June 2022

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 soil handling activities, dewatering methods, environmentally sensitive features, topsoil removal, bore pad construction, archaeological impact assessments and culturally modified tree chance finds. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for June 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.

Darfield Pump Station

As part of the Trans Mountain Expansion Project, 12 new pump stations will be added to the pipeline system, 11 for the new pipeline and one for the existing pipeline. Pump stations are critical components of the pipeline operations system, containing electric motors to drive the pumps to move oil through the pipeline.

At Darfield Pump Station near the District of Barriere, Indigenous Monitors completed site inspections. The inspection included observing and documenting general housekeeping, waste management, hazardous materials storage and soil stripping activities.

During the inspection, spill kits were inspected for containment volume and spill response material and to ensure the appropriate placement in relation to work fronts. Soil stripping and grading activities were inspected by an Indigenous Monitor for cultural and heritage chance finds. Other soil handling mitigations documented include 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. The Indigenous Monitors observed that compliance measures were followed and no potential chance finds were identified.

Darfield pump station soil handling inspection.

Dewatering Management

During construction activity, water that accumulates within the Project area from precipitation or groundwater seepage is visually assessed prior to being pumped to areas approved by the Trans Mountain Environmental Inspector.

This water is discharged through a filtration device and into a well vegetated area. From there, it will slowly infiltrate into local soils.

The Indigenous Monitors inspected the pump-off of water near KP 853. They observed water coming out of the silt bag free of sediment. The release site was noted as well vegetated and the silt bag was clean. The water management mitigation measures were followed and verified. No concerns were identified.

Dewatering activities at Borepad 3 near Jacko Lake.

Jacko Lake General Inspection

Near Jacko Lake, crews constructed bore pads for trenchless crossing activities. Trenchless crossings are used to safely cross underneath environmentally sensitive areas, minimizing the impact on users.

Environmental features that occur on or adjacent to the construction footprint are staked and flagged by Resource Specialist crews prior to commencing construction. This may include rare plants and rare ecological communities, wildlife species of concern, archeological features, TLU sites and any other sensitive environmental or cultural features. The features are clearly marked so they may be avoided and/or protected during construction.

Near KP 851 to 856, matting and soil piles for bore pads 1, 3 and 5 and associated access roads were inspected. The ground near parked machinery was inspected for surface staining. Good housekeeping and proper waste management procedures were identified during the inspection. Environmental features were monitored for continued avoidance, appropriate signage and buffers. No concerns were identified.

Amphibian fencing near KP 856.

Hydroseeding topsoil piles at KP 851.

Topsoil Stripping and Backfill

Topsoil stripping, pipe installation and backfill activities continue in 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 ensure backfill activities are confined to the construction right-of-way. No issues or potential chance finds were identified.

Topsoil stripping and soil segregation at KP 953.

Heritage Resource Sites

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.

The Indigenous Monitor observed the implementation of an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) conducted on Zoht 4 Reserve near KP 914. The assessment, completed by a qualified archaeologist and Indigenous participants, may include visual inspection to identify features with predictable archaeological potential, surface inspection of areas with exposed sediments for cultural materials and subsurface testing of terrain features exhibiting archaeological potential. If an archaeological site is found, Trans Mountain completes the applicable reporting and applies for the required permits in alignment with the *Heritage Conservation Act*. Ongoing AIA activities continue in the area.

Shovel test during the AIA on Zoht 4 Reserve.

Culturally Modified Trees (CMT)

Resource-Specific Mitigation Tables and Environmental Alignment Sheets are used to illustrate 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 that have been conducted in relation to the Project for more than seven years. If a site or location is observed in the field that may be a previously unidentified TLU area, the TLU Site Discovery Contingency Plan is followed.

Near the Coldwater West Alternative Route (the portion of the right-of-way that goes around the Coldwater 1 Reserve), the Indigenous Monitor participated in the implementation of the TLU Site Discovery Contingency Plan in areas where trees were identified as potentially culturally modified. Trees found during a CMT sweep were examined by Indigenous Monitors and Environmental

General area near the Coldwater West Alternative Route where CMTs are monitored.

Inspectors on-site to collect initial information. The area was flagged off for additional evaluation. Resource Specialists and Knowledge Holders of Indigenous Monitors' communities were contacted for evaluation of the tree and potential mitigation. The engagement process with Indigenous groups was initiated to share information about the resource and seek feedback. The tree was determined to be culturally modified. The feature was flagged, a buffer was placed around the tree and continued avoidance was recommended.	

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	6	1	8	0	15
Fulfilled	6	1	8	-	15
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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