

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: May 2022

**Project Region: BC Interior
Spread 5A**

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 25

**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 dust suppression, airbridge installation, topsoil removal, reclamation activities at Kingsvale Transmission line and heritage resources and culturally modified tree chance finds. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for May 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.

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

Dust Suppression

Trans Mountain aims to minimize disruption to our neighbors during construction and; therefore, developed plans for construction activities to reduce dust are applied on-site. Dust control measures apply to any construction site with the potential for air and water pollution from dust travelling across the landscape or through the air. Dust suppression practices are used to prevent the surface and air transport of dust during construction, including watering of access roads (during non-freezing conditions), chemical applications, stabilizing soil piles and installing silt fencing.

The Indigenous Monitors observed and documented dust suppression activities on-site including:

- Maintaining access roads during construction, including applying water or chemical dust suppressants to roads, where warranted
- Cleaning equipment prior to leaving construction sites
- Mud, soil debris or foreign material tracked onto roads was cleaned as quickly as practical following equipment crossings
- Re-established vegetative cover at completed work areas

No concerns were identified during the inspection.



Applying water on access roads to suppress dust near KP 929.

Airbridge Installation

An airbridge was installed over Line One, Trans Mountain's existing pipeline at KP 964 near Larson Hill. Airbridges allow access at areas of the construction site that require moving heavy equipment safely across active pipelines or gas lines. Air bridges are designed to support the weight of heavy equipment while protecting the underlying pipeline, culvert or other subterranean material that require bridging.

Indigenous Monitors observed mitigation measures during the air bridge installation, which included the installation and maintenance of erosion and sediment control measures to avoid or minimize erosion, as well as the potential discharge of sediment or other substances into any nearby



watercourses and connecting drainage systems. Indigenous Monitors noted that the matting was free of soil, debris and invasive species per the Environmental Protection Plan. The Indigenous Monitors conducted walk-throughs of the area to check for any potential culturally significant items; no potential culturally significant items were identified. No concerns were identified during the inspection.



Airbridge installation at KP 964.

Kingsvale Transmission Line

Cleanup and reclamation are important steps in returning disturbed sites to a stable condition similar to pre-construction activity. Post-construction monitoring is conducted to evaluate whether the sites reclamation success is on the correct trajectory, including vegetation establishment, erosion control and weed growth.

Mitigation measures implemented during Kingsvale Transmission Line post construction monitoring include:

- Cleaning up all associated debris and materials
- Re-establishing the construction site, including watercourse bed and banks to a stable condition
- Re-establishing positive drainage across the worksite
- Preventing surface material loss due to soil erosion by wind and water
- Establishing a vegetative cover compatible with surrounding vegetation and land uses, and deterring the proliferation of weeds to maintain equivalent land capability



Mulch and vegetative cover at Kingsvale Transmission Line.

The Indigenous Monitors inspected and participated in post-construction monitoring activities on Kingsvale Transmission Line, re-seeding activity in previously excavated and backfilled areas and ensuring correct signage is in place. The Indigenous Monitors also monitored topsoil reclamation and general site housekeeping efforts. No concerns were identified during the inspection.

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 942.



Stringing pipe at KP 948.


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 by way of 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 near the Coldwater West Alternative Route (the portion of the right-of-way that goes around the Coldwater 1 Reserve) at AK 7.9. 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



Shovel test during the archaeological impact assessment.

<p>in the area. No concerns were identified during the inspection.</p>	
<p>Culturally Modified Trees (CMT)</p> <p>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 by way of 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.</p> <p>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 the Indigenous Monitors and Environmental Inspectors on-site to collect initial information and 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.</p>	 <p>General area near the Coldwater West Alternative Route where CMT sweeps were conducted ahead of clearing activities.</p>

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	15
Fulfilled	7	1	8	-	15
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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