

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: November 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 site housekeeping, culturally modified trees, pump stations, erosion and sediment control, topsoil removal and bore pad construction. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for November 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 Black Pines at KP 819, the Indigenous Monitors observed maintenance activities on erosion and sediment control mitigations, including installation of straw wattles to prevent slope erosion and sediment traps to reduce runoff water and allow sediment to settle before it's discharged. Hoses and pumps were observed to be in good condition. No concerns were identified.



ESC maintenance at KP 819 near Black Pines.

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.



Topsoil stripping and soil segregation at AK 17.9.



Grading activities at AK 18.



Backfill activities at KP 857.

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 placed under equipment.



Sandbags placed accordingly.

Bore Pad Construction near Jacko Lake

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

At KP 857 and KP 851, 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 857 near the active construction area were monitored for continued avoidance, appropriate signage and buffers.

Sediment fencing, culverts and drainage were inspected at access road 1 at KP 851. Final cleanup activities, including soil replacement, final grading, fence repairs and equipment demobilizing occurred at KP 857. No further concerns were identified.



Boring activities at Jacko Lake KP 851.



Final cleanup activities at KP 857.

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 conducted in relation to the Project for more than seven years. Regulator-approved Contingency Plans are in place in the event a previously unidentified potential TLU or cultural heritage resource is found during construction activity (“chance find”). When a potential chance find is discovered, the applicable contingency plan is followed - Traditional Land Use Site Discovery Contingency Plan or the Heritage Resources Contingency Plan.

Near the Coldwater West Alternative Route (the portion of the right-of-way that goes around the Coldwater 1 Reserve), the Indigenous Monitors 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 Inspectors on-site to collect initial information. The trees were flagged, buffers were placed around the trees, and continued avoidance was recommended. Resource Specialists and Knowledge Holders from the Indigenous Monitors’ communities were contacted for evaluation of the trees and potential mitigation. The trees were determined to be culturally modified. The engagement process with Indigenous groups was initiated to share information about the resource and seek feedback.



General area of the CMT monitoring.



General area of the CMT monitoring.

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)

CONTACT US:

Trans Mountain

✉ info@transmountain.com

☎ 1.866.514.6700

🌐 transmountain.com



@TransMtn



youtube.com/transmtn



PO Box 81018

Burnaby, BC V5H 3B0

