

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: January 2022

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 24

**Project Region: Coquihalla Hope
Spread 5B**

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
KP 990–1075**

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 Coquihalla Hope 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 Coquihalla Hope Region involving Indigenous Monitors took place from KP 990 to 1075 in Spread 5B and included monitoring heritage resource sites, clearing and snow removal, bore pad construction, temporary construction sites, topsoil salvage and grading, and conducting culturally modified tree assessments. 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.

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

Heritage Resource Site

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.

During pre-construction survey activities, previously identified archaeological sites are marked with flagging ribbon by Resource Specialist crews during the environmental flagging and staking program. Signage is also installed to indicate to construction crews where areas are not to be entered.

Indigenous Monitors inspected TLU areas and archaeological sites along the right-of-way to verify the staking and boundaries. Some sites included but are not limited to STOLO-175, STOLO-941 and STOLO-1614. The Indigenous Monitors inspected nearby TLU sites near a buffered archaeological site to ensure continued avoidance and accurate boundaries. No deficiencies were identified. Ongoing monitoring by the Indigenous Monitors continue at such sites.



Ongoing Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) activities including signage, delineated boundaries and continued avoidance of sites along right-of-way.



Ongoing AIA activities including signage, delineated boundaries and continued avoidance of sites along right-of-way.

Bore Pad Construction

At Laidlaw Road, crews are constructing a bore pad for trenchless crossing activities. Trenchless crossings are used to safely cross underneath roads and railways, minimizing the impact to users. These techniques are also used for many watercourses and environmentally sensitive areas.

At KP 1057, topsoil was stripped and segregated, and grading activities continue. Ground disturbance was observed within the designated limits. 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.

The Indigenous Monitor participated in inspections focused on appropriate signage and flagging. Disturbed soil was inspected for potential chance finds. No potential heritage resource chance finds were identified throughout the inspection.



Bore pad construction at KP 1057.

Temporary Construction Lands

Temporary construction lands and infrastructure are defined for the Project as preparatory works to support Project construction and include temporary camps, stockpile sites, equipment staging areas and borrow pits, as well as works on access roads within the first 10 km of each designated construction spread. Many of the sites addressed in the Temporary Construction Lands and Infrastructure Environmental Protection Plan are on previously developed lands.

Indigenous Monitors participated in joint inspections with the Environmental Inspector at the Popkum laydown yard. Key aspects of the inspections included housekeeping and waste management, with corrective actions noted including proper waste disposal and using drip trays. In addition, spill kits and spill response procedures were reviewed at site with no concerns identified.



Housekeeping inspection activities at the Popkum Laydown Yard.

Right-of-Way Clearing and Snow Removal

Project right-of-way clearing involves the removal of trees and vegetation in areas along the pipeline. During this process, the surveyed Project right-of-way is cleared by removing trees and brush. The topsoil is salvaged and stored along the edge of the Project right-of-way so it may be spread back out during reclamation. During the winter months, removing snow from the right-of-way is required to allow for safe passage of vehicles and equipment.

The Indigenous Monitors inspected clearing activities along the right-of-way. At KP 1058 near Peters Road, the Indigenous Monitors inspected snow removal activities on right-of-way and access roads. The inspection included documenting good housekeeping measures, fencing installation and accurate buffers and signage for environmentally sensitive areas. No concerns were identified during the inspection.



Snow removal at KP 1058 near Peters Road.

Topsoil Removal

When salvaging topsoil 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 topsoil piles to ensure they are within the survey limits of the right-of-way and no soil have gone outside these limits. Wildlife has shown to be using soil breaks put in place to allow for travel across the right-of-way.

The Indigenous Monitors were involved in monitoring and inspecting such topsoil salvage mitigations near KP 1058. The Indigenous Monitors also inspected the construction areas before and after topsoil stripping to identify any potential archaeological chance finds. No potential archaeological chance finds were identified.



Topsoil removal at KP 1058.

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 traditional land use 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.

In the event a site or location is observed in the field that may be a previously unidentified traditional land use area, the TLU Site Discovery Contingency Plan is followed. The Indigenous Monitor participated in the implementation of the TLU Site Discovery Contingency Plan in areas where trees were identified that were thought to be potentially culturally modified.

Trees found during a CMT sweep were examined by the IMs and EIs on-site to collect initial information. Measurements were recorded to determine the diameter breast height (DBH). The area was flagged off for additional evaluation. Resource specialists were contacted for evaluation of the tree and potential mitigation. The engagement process with applicable Indigenous groups was initiated to share information about the resource and seek feedback. The assessment of this resource is in progress.



General area of CMT sweeps near KP 1050.




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 request for Project reports, input from an environmental resource specialist or on-site support from an Elder or other cultural knowledge holder. 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	8	0	2	0	10
Fulfilled	8	-	2	-	10
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](https://www.youtube.com/transmtn)



 PO Box 81018
 Burnaby, BC V5H 3B0

