

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: July 2022

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 26

**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 chance find procedures, temporary construction sites, wildlife, topsoil removal, in-stream works, and conducting culturally modified tree sweeps. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for July 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.

Archaeological Impact Assessments (AIA)

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 that have been conducted in relation to the Project for more than seven years.

The Indigenous Monitors observed the implementation of an AIA conducted near Hope. 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 shovel testing of terrain features exhibiting archaeological potential. No concerns were identified.

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. Additional consultation with Indigenous nations occurs when a site is discovered. Ongoing AIA activities continue in the Hope region.



Flakes found in shovel testing near KP 1041.



Flakes found in shovel testing near KP 1041 and KP 1056.

Temporary Construction Lands

Temporary construction lands and infrastructure are defined for the Project as preparatory work areas to support Project construction and include temporary camps, stockpile sites and equipment staging areas. 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. This temporary infrastructure site, located on the Popkum Indian Reserve No. 1, has been developed and is owned by the Popkum First Nation. This site is being used for office facilities, a construction yard for storage of equipment, pipe and other construction material during construction of the Expansion Project in the Coquihalla Hope region.

Key aspects of the inspections included housekeeping and waste management with corrective actions noted,



Popkum yard inspection for general housekeeping.

such as proper waste disposal and using drip trays. In addition, spill kits and spill response procedures were reviewed and implemented at the site. Loose miscellaneous debris was identified and disposed of and corrective actions were taken during the inspection.

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. If a previously unidentified potential TLU area is observed in the field, the TLU Site Discovery Contingency Plan is followed.

Near the Hope area, 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 salvage efforts were coordinated to harvest the tree and relocate to interested communities determined through the consultation process. Indigenous Monitors continue conducting CMT sweeps ahead of construction activity.



General area of CMT sweeps.

Topsoil Removal and Grubbing

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 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 were involved in monitoring and inspecting such soil salvage mitigations, as well as inspecting the construction areas before and after soil stripping, to identify any potential archaeological chance finds.

Near Hope, the Indigenous Monitors participated in the implementation of the Heritage Resource Site Discovery Contingency Plan where a potential heritage resource feature was discovered. Construction was halted in the immediate area and the potential chance find was buffered to allow for ongoing assessments with the Resource Specialist, Indigenous Monitor and Environmental Inspector. Trans Mountain initiated the communication process for chance finds of Traditional Land Use and Heritage Resources sites.

Further inspections were conducted near the area and no additional potential chance finds were identified. Ongoing assessments with the Archaeological Resource Specialist continue in the area.

Wildlife Observation

An Indigenous Monitor identified and documented deer tracks during daily inspection activities. Mitigation measures are implemented, including soil breaks to allow wildlife to safely cross the construction footprint and reporting any observed wildlife activity near construction. Indigenous Monitors documented deer using the wildlife corridors along the right-of-way near Road 1 at KP 994.



Soil removal and grubbing near KP 998.



Soil breaks inspected for wildlife activity along right-of-way.

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. 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	9	0	4	0	13
Fulfilled	9	-	4	-	13
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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