

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: July 2023

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 28

**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, topsoil removal and grading, hydrovac excavations, and pipe installation and backfill. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for July 2023, 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 conducted in relation to the Project for more than seven years.

The Indigenous Monitors observed the implementation of an AIA conducted near Hope and Laidlaw Road. The assessment, completed by a qualified archaeologist and Indigenous participants, included 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. Engagement with Indigenous groups occurs when a previously unidentified site is discovered. Ongoing AIA activities continue.



Raking soil materials from Road 54 construction.



Screening of materials near Dent pit.

Topsoil Stripping and Grading

Topsoil stripping and grading activities took place at Road 59. When removing topsoil, many mitigations are required, including the inspection of topsoil pile(s) to ensure they are within the survey limits of the right-of-way and no soil has gone outside these limits.

The Indigenous Monitors have been involved in monitoring and inspecting such topsoil stripping mitigations. They also inspect the cleared area to investigate any potential chance finds that could be unearthed. No issues or chance finds were identified.



Grading activities at Road 59.

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, 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.



Popkum yard inspection for general housekeeping.

Hydrovac Excavations

Hydrovac excavations are taking place at areas along the right-of-way. Hydrovac excavations are used in sensitive areas where there is potential for underground utility damage. High pressure water and a vacuum are used to safely excavate sensitive areas.

At Road 40, the Indigenous Monitors inspected the hydrovac activity and noted proper biosecurity measures, safety protocols and good housekeeping. No issues were identified.



Hydrovac excavating exposed utilities at Road 40.

Pipe Installation and Backfill

Topsoil stripping, pipe installation and backfill activities continue in Spread 5B. 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 and identifying drainage pathways to reduce ponding.

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. Construction activities were noted as confined to the construction right-of-way. No issues or potential chance finds were identified.



Backfilling trench near KP 1055.

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)

CONTACT US:
Trans Mountain

✉ info@transmountain.com

☎ 1.866.514.6700

🌐 transmountain.com


 @TransMtn
  youtube.com/transmntn
 

 PO Box 81018
Burnaby, BC V5H 3B0



TRANSMOUNTAIN