

## INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

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**Month: May 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, airbridge installation, topsoil removal and conducting culturally modified tree sweeps. 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](mailto: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](https://transmountain.com/covid19)**

## 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. Ongoing AIA activities continue in the Hope region.



Archaeological Impact Assessments near KP 1025.

## 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 that have been conducted in relation to the Project for more than seven years. If a potential previously unidentified TLU area is observed in the field, 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 thought to be potentially culturally modified were identified. Indigenous Monitors continue conducting CMT sweeps ahead of construction activity.



General area of CMT sweeps.



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



Popkum yard inspection for general housekeeping.



Waste management corrective action applied during inspection to ensure proper disposal of waste materials.

## Airbridge Installation

An airbridge was installed at Road 40. 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 installation and maintenance of erosion and sediment control measures to avoid or minimize erosion and the potential discharge of sediment or other substances into any nearby watercourses and connecting drainage systems. All appropriate signage was in place and noted per the Environmental Protection Plan. The Indigenous Monitors conducted walk-throughs of the area to check for any potential culturally significant items; no culturally significant items were identified. No concerns were identified during the inspection.



Air bridge installation at Road 40.

## Topsoil Removal

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 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.



Soil removal and soil screening for potential chance finds near Hope.

## 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 40.



Deer tracks identified near Road 40.

## 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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