

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: January 2023

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 23

**Project Region: Edmonton and
Yellowhead**

**Kilometer Posts (KPs) monitored:
KP 1–337**

Indigenous Monitors on the Trans Mountain Expansion Project – Overview

The Trans Mountain Expansion Project (the Project or TMEP) is retaining 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 Edmonton and Yellowhead Regions. 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 Edmonton and Yellowhead Regions involving Indigenous Monitors included monitoring surface water pump-off, pipe installation and backfill, watercourse restoration inspection, right-of-way reclamation, Edmonton Terminal, Traditional Land Use (TLU) sites and wildlife management. Pipeline construction on Spread 1 is mechanically complete; some final Project activities on the Spread 1 right-of-way are being completed intermittently. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for January 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 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.

Pump-Off

To keep trench excavation areas dewatered and stable during pipeline construction, water that accumulates from precipitation or groundwater seepage is pumped off and relocated to an approved location either on or off the construction footprint. At KP 115 on Spread 2, water accumulating in the excavated trench was pumped off to a sediment bag. Water flowing out of the filtration system was discharged upland to a well-vegetated area.

The Indigenous Monitors inspected to ensure the filtration system was functioning as intended and that no sediment loading was identified at the discharge point. Observation showed pump-off water was released a minimum of 50 m from the nearest watercourse, replacement materials were readily available including sediment control devices, pumps, spills kits and secondary containment, and housekeeping of off-construction footprint locations took place. No deficiencies were found.



Pump-off location near KP 115.



Pump-off in progress near KP 115.

Pipe Installation and Backfill

Spread 2 pipe installation and backfill activities were completed near KP 117. Once the pipeline is in place, select backfill material may be used to bed and protect the pipe. Following this, subsoil and topsoil are replaced in the sequence in which they were removed.

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.



Backfill in progress KP 117.

Watercourse Restoration Inspection

Environmental mitigation measures for in-stream construction of watercourses are prescribed in the provincial permits and the watercourse crossing plans, and in some cases, a Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) authorization. Mitigation measures required for in-stream construction include but are not limited to biosecurity cleaning of equipment, secondary containment of hydrocarbons, salvaging of stream bed material, fish salvage, water quality monitoring and sediment/erosion control. When in-stream work is complete, Indigenous Monitors regularly monitor watercourse crossings. Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) measures are monitored; these measures mitigate erosion and sediment transport from construction sites to downstream areas and watercourses. On-site ESC mitigations may include sediment fences, swales, wattles, rock armouring, erosion control blankets and hydroseeding, as well as water drainage control measures.

Indigenous Monitors inspected the effectiveness of restorations completed at various watercourses in Spread 2 and observed site housekeeping efforts, recontour of the bank and transplant areas including erosion control blanket, willow stakes in riparian zones, re-seeding in previously excavated and backfilled areas, and rock armouring and stream bed material replacement. These mitigations were installed and working as planned. No deficiencies were identified.



Inspection of AB-178 at KP 317.



Monitoring of AB-202 at KP 337.



Restoration of AB-194 complete at KP 332.

Reclamation

Subsoil is de-compacted to alleviate compaction caused by construction activities before topsoil replacement. Acceptable topsoil depths are confirmed by an Environmental Inspector (EI) during final cleanup. Multiple measurements are taken of topsoil replacement quality and depth. After the contractor has properly prepared the ground for seed, the area is seeded with the approved mix that reflects the vegetation profile from pre-disturbance.

Indigenous Monitors were on-site inspecting various reclamation activities, including discing for soil decompaction, topsoil replacement, confirming topsoil depth and confirmation that proper seed mixes are applied. Indigenous Monitors were engaged in conversations with crews and EIs in all stages of reclamation. No deficiencies were found.



Topsoil replacement and cleanup at KP 64.



Topsoil replacement at KP 337.

Edmonton Terminal Inspection

To accommodate the increased capacity of the pipeline system, Trans Mountain is adding new storage tanks at existing terminals. All additions will take place within the existing footprint of the terminals. All tanks are constructed in accordance with American Petroleum Institute (API) Standard 650 – Welded Tanks for Oil Storage.

The Edmonton Terminal expansion is adding four new storage tanks, taking the total number to 39. The additional tanks will add approximately 1,315,000 bbl of capacity to the facility, bringing the total to 9.25 million barrels.

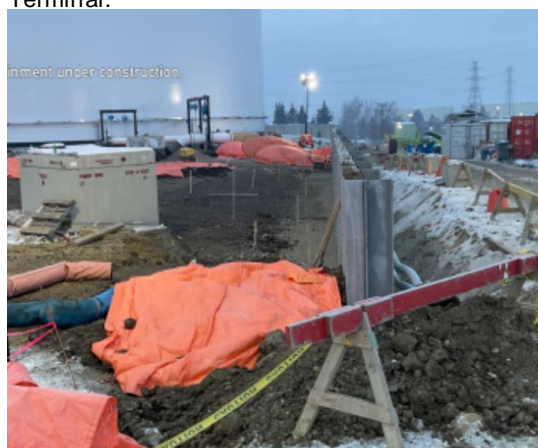
Strategies for avoiding or reducing potential environmental impacts are employed at all stages of construction by following the Environmental Protection Plans. The goal is to protect the environment, have as little impact as possible and ensure the land is returned to a similar function.

A joint inspection was conducted at the Edmonton Terminal by the Environmental Inspector and Indigenous Monitor. Observations included the construction in the Line 2 pump building.

Waste management was inspected as well as secondary containment for equipment and fuel storage tanks. Open excavations were marked and properly delineated. Walking paths were kept clear. Spill kits and spill response procedures were also reviewed in the field. Key compliance measures on the construction permit were reviewed and mitigations were in place. No deficiencies were noted.



New pump building enclosed at Edmonton Terminal.



Good housekeeping on-site at Edmonton Terminal.



Fire and stormwater collection system under construction.

Traditional Land Use Sites (TLU)

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 over many years.

Indigenous Monitors inspected previously identified TLU sites along the right-of-way on Spread 2 to confirm mitigation measures remain in place including signage, staking and flagging.

Indigenous Monitors inspect TLU sites with a focus on sites near active construction to ensure mitigation measures are in place to protect Heritage Resources. Sites inspected include but are not limited to TLU-2, TLU-7, TLU-8, TLU-17 and TLU-26.

An Indigenous Monitor also performed an inspection on a plant gathering site. The Indigenous Monitor confirmed no chemicals have been sprayed in the TLU site, construction is confined to approved work boundaries and that boundary signage is in place. Inspected mitigation measures remained in compliance. No cultural or environmental concerns were identified.



Signage and mitigations TLU-2.



Reclamation complete TLU-17.



Mitigations TLU-26.

Wildlife Management

While conducting site monitoring, Indigenous Monitors record and report any wildlife sightings to the Environmental Inspector. Indigenous Monitors also participate in discussions with the Environmental Inspection team relating to wildlife protection strategies and inspect that mitigation measures like environmental feature signage and buffers are effectively in place.

Indigenous Monitors regularly inspect for signs of wildlife and confirmed that soil breaks are working effectively to maintain movement of wildlife through construction areas. No environmental concerns were identified.



Wildlife break in soil working as intended KP 312.

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 (beyond any reports or documents requested and shared through day-to-day team activity on-site), 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	7	1	8	-	16
Fulfilled	7	1	8	-	16
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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