

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: July 2022

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 25

Project Region: Fraser Valley

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
KP 1075–1165**

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 impacts 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 Fraser Valley. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Indigenous Monitor activity to Indigenous groups.

During this reporting period, key Project activities in the Fraser Valley Region involving Indigenous Monitors included construction on Spread 6/7A, monitoring Archaeological Impact Assessments (AIA), watercourse crossings, erosion and sediment control, wildlife management, environmental features, vegetation management and Sumas Terminal.

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. [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.

Watercourse Crossings

Environmental mitigation measures for in-stream construction of watercourses are prescribed in the provincial permit and site-specific watercourse crossing plans. Mitigation measures required for in-stream construction include but are not limited to biosecurity cleaning of equipment, secondary containment of hydrocarbons, stream bed material, fish salvage, amphibian salvage, water quality monitoring and erosion and sediment control.

In isolated watercourse crossings, stream flow is rerouted around the natural watercourse for a short duration while trenched construction occurs across the watercourse. Once the trench is constructed and the pipe is installed, the trench is backfilled and channel bed and banks restored, and the water is restored to its natural channel. Watercourse diversion is typically limited to a few hours to a single day for smaller watercourses. If the watercourse is fish-bearing, during this type of construction, fisheries biologists salvage fish from the isolated area and release the fish upstream. Water quality is also monitored by Resource Specialists during construction in all fish-bearing watercourses.

Indigenous Monitors observed the contractor prepare for in-stream work at watercourses BC722a1 and BC722a2 near KP 1106. The Indigenous Monitor talked with the Resource Specialist about water quality monitoring and monitored a fish and amphibian salvage conducted prior to construction activity. During the time of inspection, 80 fish had been salvaged by the Resource Specialist using dip nets.

No environmental concerns or deficiencies were found during these inspections.



Resource Specialist conducting the fish salvage at Watercourse BC722a1.

Erosion and Sediment Control

Erosion and sediment control (ESC) measures are monitored and inspected to ensure they are functioning as intended to mitigate erosion and sediment transport from construction sites to sensitive environmental features downstream. On-site ESC mitigations include sediment fences, swales, wattles, straw, polyethylene sheeting, coco matting, geotextile fabric and hydroseeding, as well as water drainage control measures.



<p>Indigenous Monitors, alongside Environmental Inspectors, observed and inspected numerous other ESC measures on TMEP construction sites throughout Spreads 6 and 7A. Inspections were completed in areas including but not limited to KP 1075, KP 1078, KP 1093 and KP 1111.</p>	<p>At KP 1093, soil piles have been clearly covered with polyethylene sheeting, staked with signage and surrounded with geotextile sediment fencing.</p>
<p>Archaeological Impact Assessments</p> <p>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 by way of TLU studies conducted by Indigenous groups and archaeology baseline assessments conducted over many years of Project planning.</p> <p>The Indigenous Monitors observed Archaeological Impact Assessments (AIA) conducted along the right-of-way near KP 1142. The assessments, completed by a qualified archaeologist and Indigenous participants, included visual inspections to identify features with archaeological potential, surface inspection of areas with exposed sediments for cultural or terrain features exhibiting archaeological potential and subsurface testing (shovel testing) of terrain features exhibiting archaeological potential.</p> <p>At KP 1119 and KP 1120, Indigenous Monitors observed construction activity alongside the Archaeological Resource Specialist in a pre-identified archaeologically sensitive area. No potential chance finds were identified during inspection and construction activity.</p> <p>At KP 1158, Indigenous Monitors observed the Archaeological Resource Specialist screen and remove soil from a pre-identified archaeological sensitive area prior to construction activities. The soil was transported to an approved off-site location where it will be further examined by a qualified archaeologist.</p>	 <p>Shovel testing conducted near KP 1142 during AIA activity.</p>  <p>Soil being screened by archaeologists at KP 1158.</p>

Wildlife Management

While conducting site monitoring, the Indigenous Monitors record and report wildlife sightings to the Environmental Inspector. They also inspect signage and wildlife buffers to ensure they're effectively in place to prevent incidental contact. Indigenous Monitors also routinely observe and participate in wildlife sweeps for various species of wildlife.

At KP 1119, the Indigenous Monitor inspected a bird nest buffer and signage and observed that the contractor was aware of the environmental mitigations, including the area of the buffer zone. Indigenous Monitors also participated in bird nest sweeps at locations including but not limited to KP 1137 and KP 1152.



Bird nest buffer and signage inspected at KP 1119.

Site Housekeeping

Indigenous Monitors conduct regular site inspections for general housekeeping measures. This includes observing and documenting garbage and recycling disposal, scrap metal management, waste storage and secondary containment of fuel and other hydrocarbons. Secondary containment measures include but are not limited to drip trays under inactive vehicles and equipment, and drip trays placed under hydrocarbon containers like gasoline and diesel and paint aerosol spray cans.

While conducting a housekeeping site inspection at KP 1117, the Indigenous Monitor observed the contractor remove the protective wooden access matting and clean up matting debris. The matting debris was loaded into dump trucks to be removed from site and disposed of at a Trans Mountain-approved location.

The Indigenous Monitors conducted housekeeping inspections at other construction sites, including KP 1095 and KP 1139. No environmental concerns were observed.



Debris from protective wooden matting at KP 1117 being loaded into a dump truck to be disposed of at an approved Trans Mountain location.

Environmental Features

The Indigenous Monitors conducted inspections in areas of known environmental features to ensure buffer zones are clearly flagged and staked. As part of pre-construction activity, environmental features such as wildlife species of concern, rare plants and rare ecological communities, archaeological features, wetlands, watercourses, TLU sites and any other sensitive environmental features are staked, flagged and sometimes fenced by Resource Specialist teams. The features are clearly marked so they can be appropriately protected during construction.

The Indigenous Monitor participated in pre-construction walk-throughs with the Environmental Inspector and the contractor at KP 1101, KP 1103, KP 1095, KP 1140 and KP 1140. In addition to inspecting environmental feature flagging and staking, they discussed various upcoming environmental mitigations such as soil handling, de-watering, wildlife salvage and watercourse crossings with the Environmental Inspector and the contractor. No environmental concerns were identified during the walk-throughs.



Preconstruction walk-through at KP 1103.

Sumas Terminal

Work at Sumas Terminal includes the installation of a new perimeter fence and the installation of temporary infrastructure needed for construction, as well as a temporary laydown yard at the terminal on Trans Mountain property. One new storage tank will be installed within the terminal, bringing the total number of tanks to seven with a storage capacity of 890,000 barrels. A new firewater retention pond will also be built.

At Sumas Terminal, the Indigenous Monitor completed site inspections. The inspections included observing and documenting general housekeeping, waste management, erosion and sediment control measures, soil stripping and storage, concrete management, groundwater management and wildlife management. No deficiencies were observed.



Artificial bird nest installed and monitored at Sumas Terminal.

Indigenous Monitor Request Dashboard

Indigenous Monitors are provided 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	0	2	0	0	2
Fulfilled	-	2	-	-	2
Outstanding	-	0	-	-	0

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

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