

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: March 2022

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 27

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. Activities included monitoring at heritage resource sites, pre-construction monitoring, wildlife management, erosion and sediment control, clearing and brushing, and Sumas direct pipe installation and Sumas Terminal.

The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for March 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 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.

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

Heritage Resource Sites

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 over many years of Project planning.

In March, the Indigenous Monitors observed Archaeological Impact Assessments (AIAs) conducted along the right-of-way on Spread 6 and 7A near KP 1135.5, KP 1147, KP 1153.5 and KP 1158. 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 sub-surface testing (shovel testing) of terrain features exhibiting archaeological potential.

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 Fraser Valley.



Archaeological zone signage at CWP 9.



Test hole conducted at CWP 21 during AIA activity.

Pre-Construction Monitoring

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.

During pre-construction survey and screening conducted by the Trans Mountain Resource Specialist, one occurrence of Roell's Brotherella Moss was identified on a tree stump within the TMEP footprint at KP 1077.13 near Bridal Falls. In March, the Indigenous Monitors inspected that the occurrence of this rare moss was appropriately flagged off and marked with signage. Prior to future construction activity, the moss will be salvaged and relocated to suitable habitat outside the Project footprint by the Resource Specialist.



Roell's Brotherella Moss occurrence on host stump at KP 1077.13.



Flagging and signage around the Roell's Brotherella Moss occurrence, feature ID VG-1077.13a.

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 are also routinely participating in wildlife sweeps for various species of wildlife.

Due to the activity levels of migratory birds (i.e., active nest building, egg laying, territorial display, etc.), Trans Mountain recommended at the 2022 nesting bird Restricted Activity Period (RAP) for 2022 to be active as of March 8, 2022, instead of March 26 to August 16, as prescribed by the Environment and Climate Change Canada's (ECCC) guidance for migratory bird nesting periods. This RAP recommendation applies to Spreads 6, 7A and 7B, as well as Sumas, Burnaby and Westridge Marine Terminals and temporary infrastructure sites across 6, 7A and 7B.

In March, the Indigenous Monitors participated in numerous bird sweeps alongside the Environmental Inspector and Resource Specialist across Spreads 6/7A prior to construction activity, and inspected that appropriate buffers, flagging and signage were installed if a nest was identified. At KP 1077.1 to 1077.3 in Bridal Falls, the Indigenous Monitors inspected that a 260-metre noise buffer around an active Pacific Great Blue Heron colony was adhered to. Construction activity in this area has been suspended due to the presence of the colony.

Indigenous Monitors also participated in the Pacific Water Shrew salvage with the Resource Specialist at KP 1162. The salvage was conducted for eight consecutive days prior to construction activity beginning. No Pacific Water Shrews, a species at risk as deemed by Environment Canada, were found.

Sumas Terminal

In March at Sumas Terminal, the Indigenous Monitor observed environmental mitigation measures relating to erosion and sediment control, including hydroseeding as well as wildlife management. No deficiencies were observed.



Song Sparrow buffer at KP 1116.35.



Indigenous Monitors observing Pacific Great Blue Herons nesting at KP 1077.1



Hydroseed used at Sumas Terminal as a ESC environmental mitigation measure.

Sumas River Direct Pipe Installation (DPI)

The Sumas River Crossing involves DPI starting from the east and advancing to the west side of the Sumas River (BC-726). The crossing is approximately 258 metres in length and the channel is located from KP 1112 to KP 1118 near the City of Abbotsford. When complete, the casing pipe is removed simultaneously as the installed pipe is encased in grout or bentonite prior to being tied into the TMEP system via conventionally trenched segments on either side of the Sumas River.

The Indigenous Monitors observed various environmental mitigations at the Sumas River DPI site, including but not limited to:

- Environmental feature staking and flagging: archaeological, TLU and wildlife features
- Wildlife management: Resource Specialist observing buffers and construction activity per the Redtail Hawk Management Plan on west side of crossing
- Site housekeeping: Inspection of waste segregation, recycling and that drip trays are placed under idle vehicles and machinery

No deficiencies or potential cultural heritage chance finds were identified during the inspections and monitoring.



Signage marking the Lightning Rock TLU site area at the Sumas River DPI.

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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