

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: April 2022

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 20

**Project Region: Jasper to Mount
Robson Reactivation**

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
KP 322–461**

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 TMEP construction.

Operations and maintenance work, including integrity digs and sleeve replacements occurring along the deactivated pipeline segments in Jasper National Park and Mount Robson Provincial Park is not part of TMEP nor subject to TMEP Conditions. However, Trans Mountain will include Indigenous Monitors during certain operations and maintenance work in reactivation areas as it relates to preparing for future TMEP construction activities.

This Overview Report provides highlights of the Indigenous Monitors' day-to-day work and key mitigation measures observed by the Monitors related to construction in the Jasper to Mount Robson Reactivation 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 Jasper to Mount Robson Reactivation Region involving Indigenous Monitors took place from KP 322–461 and included construction housekeeping, watercourse/wetland crossing and danger tree assessment inspections. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for April 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 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.

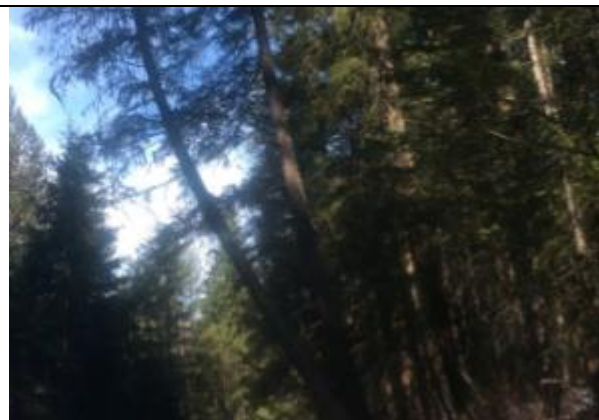
Wildlife Management

While conducting site monitoring, the Indigenous Monitors record and report wildlife sightings to the Environmental Inspector. They 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.

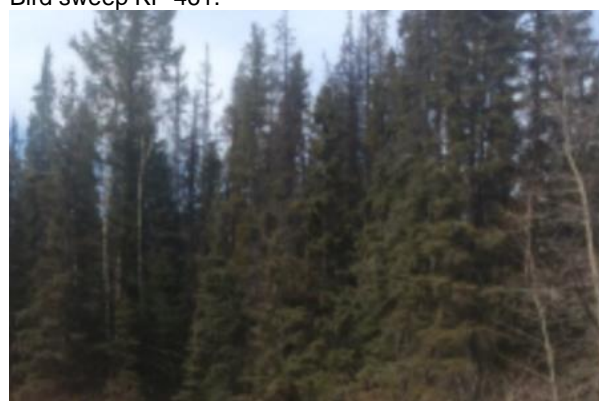
In April, the Indigenous Monitors participated in wildlife sweeps including amphibian and migratory nesting bird sweeps alongside the Resource Specialist prior to clearing and/or other construction activity. Nesting birds that require protection include species of migratory birds and those listed federally and/or provincially. Active nests require mitigation (e.g. avoidance or monitoring).

Indigenous Monitors and Environmental Inspectors attended Bird Sweep Training in April. The training covered bird recognition, behaviour, influences and impacts of construction, nest location and identification, and best times and weather conditions to perform bird sweeps, as well as chance find procedures and mitigations.

Resource Specialists and Indigenous Monitors performed wildlife sweeps in all areas where active construction is or will soon be underway. Indigenous Monitors performed bird sweeps between KP 390 and 461.



Bird sweep KP 461.



Bird sweep KP 416.

Site Housekeeping

Indigenous Monitors regularly conduct inspections of the various construction areas for general housekeeping measures. This includes observing and documenting waste storage management, fuel storage containment and proper use of vehicle and equipment spill kits.

Waste or construction materials not properly disposed of or secured are reported to the Environmental Inspectors and respective site services crew for maintenance. The recycling bins are also inspected to make sure waste is



Signage, delineators and an organized site at Dig 24-A KP 380.

properly segregated into appropriate categories.

In April, Indigenous Monitors inspected waste segregation, hazardous materials containment, spill response material and tripping hazards at the Jasper laydown yard, active dig sites and in active water crossing construction areas such as the Fraser River (KP 423), Ghita Creek (KP420) and Miette River (KP 396). No deficiencies were identified at the time of inspection.

Erosion and Sediment Control

Erosion and sediment control measures (ESC) are monitored and inspected in Jasper National Park to ensure they are functioning as intended to mitigate erosion and sediment transport from construction sites to downstream areas, including watercourses. On-site ESC mitigations include sediment fences, swales, wattles, straw, polyethylene sheeting, coco matting and hydroseeding, as well as water drainage control measures.

In April, an Indigenous Monitor performed a focus inspection on the ESC measures in place near KP 402. The practice of focus inspections guides the inspection process and helps to make sure all aspects of mitigation are considered. No issues were noted with ESC measures during inspection.



Topsoil covered and labelled at KP 390.



Multiple ESC measures in place at KP 402.



Coarse woody debris and tree planting at ESC KP 490.

Danger Tree Assessments

Trees that create a hazard to the public, workers or the safe operation of facilities due to their proximity to the construction site, roads, trails or structures are deemed danger trees. Danger trees on the edge of the Project footprint are assessed by a Danger Tree Assessor so every reasonable effort can be made to retain (and if necessary, modify to remove dangerous portions) suitable nest trees as an alternative to complete removal.

Danger trees are not removed from locations greater than one tree length from the construction site (Project footprint), trails, electrical conductors or structures. In April, when danger tree assessments were conducted at locations including but not limited to the Miette River Bridge crossing (KP 403) and Minaga River (KP 389), the Indigenous Monitors participated to ensure no Culturally Modified Trees (CMTs) or TLU sites were present. No potential CMT or TLU chance finds were identified.



Danger tree at Miette River Bridge crossing flagged for removal at KP 403.

Watercourse Crossings

Environmental mitigation measures for in-stream construction of watercourses are prescribed in the provincial permit and the watercourse crossing plan, 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, biodegradable hydraulic fluid in equipment, secondary containment of hydrocarbons, stream bed material is salvaged and stockpiled separately, fish salvage, water quality monitoring and sediment/erosion control.

Indigenous Monitors inspect to ensure the upstream isolation is installed first, followed by the downstream isolation. Isolations are within the limits of the footprint. A shallow sump or depression has been excavated/formed in the streambed to effectively submerge the intakes into the water. New or clean bypass hoses are used. Bypass pumping rate matches streamflow rate.



Pump installation at the Minaga River KP 390.



Isolation in place at the Minaga River KP 390.

Indigenous Monitors observed that the plywood under the diffusers and the rock in the Minauga River were effectively acting as scour protection with no impacts to the stream bank or bed. Indigenous Monitors also observed that contractor procedures for refuelling stationary equipment within the riparian buffer zone (RBZ) were followed and that mobile equipment was refuelled 100 metres outside of the RBZ.

Indigenous Monitors communicated regularly with the Resource Specialists, with a focus on turbidity monitoring and assisting with fish salvage. The watercourse crossing plans were executed as intended and no unplanned events took place during construction in April.



Active diffusers downstream in the Minauga River KP 390.



Reclamation complete at Minaga River KP 390.

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	1	-	-	-	1
Fulfilled	1	-	-	-	1
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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