

## INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

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**Month: July 2022**

**Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 23**

**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 317–461 and included wildlife mitigation monitoring, danger tree assessment, erosion and sediment control (ESC), surface water pump-off and reclamation-site-specific planting. 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. 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.**

## Wildlife Management

While conducting site monitoring, the Indigenous Monitors record and report any 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.

Indigenous Monitors participated in wildlife sweeps including amphibian and migratory nesting bird 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).

Resource Specialists performed sweeps in all areas where active construction is or will soon be underway. Indigenous Monitors joined bird sweeps between KP 317 and 467. Indigenous Monitors and Environmental Inspectors confirmed that proper buffers and signage were in place and continue to communicate daily about active bird nests. No issues were identified during these inspections.

## 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





Bird nest buffer in place KP 361.



Bird buffer in place KP 467.



Danger tree assessment area KP 458.

<p>the construction site (Project footprint), trails, electrical conductors or structures.</p> <p>When danger tree assessments were conducted near KP 458, 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.</p>	
<p><b>Erosion and Sediment Control</b></p> <p>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, including coarse woody debris (CWD).</p> <p>An Indigenous Monitor performed an inspection on the ESC measures in place near KP 389. Rock and CWD were placed across a slope to reduce runoff velocity and retain sediment. Vegetation is becoming re-established and will act as primary ESC. No issues or environmental concerns were identified during the inspection.</p>	 <p>CWD in place on slope KP 389.</p>  <p>ESC measures in place at Minauga River KP 389.</p>



### Pump-Off

To keep trench excavation areas dewatered and stable during pipeline construction activity, 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 339 water accumulating in the excavated pipeline 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 confirmed that pump off water was released a minimum of 50m 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. No deficiencies were identified during the inspection.



Pump-off location near KP 339.



Trench dewatering location at Dig 10a KP 339.

### Reclamation – Site-Specific Planting

Reclamation is an important step in returning disturbed sites on Reactivation to a stable condition similar to the site's condition prior to the construction activity. Establishing a vegetative cover compatible with surrounding vegetation to maintain equivalent land capability after construction and deterring the proliferation of weeds are some of the environmental mitigation measures outlined in the Reactivation site-specific planting plans.

To establish a temporary vegetative cover to limit erosion of backfilled dig sites while permanent reclamation activities are completed, a seed mixture is applied as prescribed in the environmental alignment sheets. Site-specific seed mixes were developed by Jasper National Park for reclamation use within the worksite



Area to be seeded at Dig 29a KP 389.

construction footprint. Seed mix composition takes into consideration site conditions, including climate and soil properties. A native seed mix suitable for moist sites will be applied to protect reclaimed land from erosion and to assist in suppressing weeds, while native plant cover is re-established. General Sites mix will be used for upland areas and Moist Sites mix will be used for lowland areas and on watercourse terrace or floodplain areas.

Indigenous Monitors observed and participated in the seeding of Dig 29a KP 389, as prescribed in the environmental alignment sheets, and continue to monitor regrowth of planted sites in Reactivation. No concerns were identified during inspection.



Approved seed mixture at Dig 29a KP 389.



Revegetation at Dig 24 KP 378.

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

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

**CONTACT US:**  
Trans Mountain



@TransMtn


youtube.com/transmntn




info@transmountain.com


1.866.514.6700


transmountain.com


PO Box 81018  
Burnaby, BC V5H 3B0


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