

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: August 2023

Project Region: Lower Mainland

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 23

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
Spread 7 KP 1165–1176**

Indigenous Monitors on the Trans Mountain Expansion Project – Overview

The Trans Mountain Expansion Project (the Project or TMEP) has retained 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 Lower Mainland. 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 Lower Mainland region involving Indigenous Monitors include construction at Burnaby Terminal, Westridge Marine Terminal (WMT) and on Spread 7B. Activities included wildlife management, erosion and sediment control (ESC), dewatering, barge inspections, reclamation and construction site housekeeping.

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

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 and other mitigations to ensure they're effectively in place to prevent incidental contact. Indigenous Monitors also routinely observe and participate in wildlife sweeps and salvages for various species of wildlife.

The Indigenous Monitor participated in discussions with the Environmental Inspector regarding the nesting bird season and mitigation measures such as bird deterrents like hawk kites and mesh netting on areas where birds may try to nest. The Indigenous Monitor observed and inspected wildlife mitigation measures to deter birds from nesting in construction areas at WMT and Spread 7B, as well as wildlife buffer zones and signage from KP 1165 to KP 1176. They discussed the transition out of the Restricted Access Period, which ends September 6. No new nests or concerns were identified during the sweeps.



General area of bird sweep.

Erosion and Sediment Control

Erosion and sediment control (ESC) measures are used to reduce erosion and limit sediment transport across construction sites to sensitive environmental features.

At WMT and Spread 7B, the Indigenous Monitors conducted inspections to verify ESC measures were installed as prescribed in the Environmental Protection Plan. This included inspecting berms and exposed slopes were securely covered with polyethene sheeting or hydroseed was correctly applied. Ditches and other water conveyance measures throughout the terminals and construction areas and along the perimeter of the Project footprint were also inspected to ensure they were free of construction materials and debris.



ESC installed and working as intended near KP 1167.



Bank restoration and rock armouring complete near KP 1168.

Barge Inspections

An Indigenous Monitor regularly inspects marine barges at WMT to verify all environmental requirements are being met. The Indigenous Monitor confirmed that decks are organized and generally free of construction debris; waste is properly segregated and stored in labelled containers; secondary containments (e.g., spill trays) are in place beneath deck equipment containing fuel or oil; and spill kits are accessible and stocked with spill containment and cleanup supplies. No concerns were noted during the inspections.



DB Bremerton barge inspected at WMT.

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 inspected various reclamation activities in the Lower Mainland, including discing for soil decompaction, topsoil replacement, confirming topsoil depth, erosion and sediment control measures, and confirmation that proper seed mixes are applied. Indigenous Monitors worked with Environmental Inspectors to ensure mitigation measures were in place during reclamation activities.



Topsoil replacement and grading near KP 1167.



Vegetation regrowth and ESC in place near KP 1167

Site Housekeeping

The Indigenous Monitors in the Lower Mainland regularly conduct inspections of construction areas for general housekeeping measures. This includes observing and documenting waste management practices and hazardous materials containment, as well as inspecting that spill kits are effectively placed and stocked with absorbent materials.

The Indigenous Monitors conducted housekeeping inspections at WMT and Spread 7B. Indigenous Monitors also check that secondary containment is placed underneath machinery and stored petrochemicals such as paint and gasoline. No environmental concerns were noted.



Good site housekeeping at Westridge Marine Terminal.



Proper use of secondary containment near KP 1176.

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	4	0	2	0	6
Fulfilled	4	-	2	-	6
Outstanding		-	-	-	

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

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