

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: June 2023

Project Region: Lower Mainland

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 22

**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, dewatering, barge inspections, erosion and sediment control measures, construction site housekeeping and monitoring at the Colony Farm Regional Park temporary workspace.

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



The Indigenous Monitor observed and inspected the bird nest buffer and signage near KP 1175.



Mesh netting placed as a nesting bird mitigation observed near KP 1175.



Beaver dam observed near KP 1168. Observed increased beaver activity in watercourse BC-780a3.

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 effectively as prescribed in the Environmental Protection Plan. This included inspecting berms and exposed slopes were securely covered with polyethylene 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.



Polyethylene sheeting placed as an ESC measure near KP 1175 was observed in good condition and functioning as intended.



Silt fencing installed for ESC mitigation near KP 1179 observed in good condition and functioning as intended.

Dewatering

Near KP 1168, a wellpoint dewatering system is installed as a pre-drainage solution that features individual wellpoints closely spaced around the excavation. This technique uses a vacuum to assist in lowering groundwater levels locally to create a stable, dry working environment. The Indigenous Monitor observed the wellpoints and inspected the discharge point where the ground water is pumped out into the adjacent watercourse (identified as BC-780a3).



Wellpoint dewatering system near KP 1168 observed to be functioning as intended.

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.



Olympia barge inspected at WMT. No concerns were identified.

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, and hydroseeding observed near KP 1172.

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 and secondary containment observed at the WMT manifold.



Secondary containment inspected near KP 1178. No concerns were identified.

Colony Farm Regional Park Temporary Workspace

The Colony Farm Regional Park Temporary Workspace near KP 1167 was being used as a staging area for drilling equipment and pullback section for the Fraser River horizontal directional drill (HDD).

The Indigenous Monitor observed and inspected various environmental mitigations at the temporary workspace, including environmental feature signage, ESC measures, site housekeeping, secondary containment for equipment and machinery, and wildlife mitigations.

The pipe has successfully been pulled from the HDD borehole at Colony Farm under the Fraser River through to the south side entry site. The pipe has been laid and reclamation activities continue at Colony Farm, including backfilling. The Indigenous Monitor observed and monitored reclamation activities of the geotechnical horizontal anchor bore (GHAB) pit area that included recontouring of materials to match adjacent backfilled area. The site was inspected by the Resource Specialist as the activity occurred near an archaeologically sensitive area. No concerns were identified.

The Indigenous Monitor also observed and inspected the removal of wooden protective matting and the sand, gravel and geocloth placed under the matting.



Material being scraped next to backfilled GHAB site area. Activity observed and monitored by the Indigenous Monitor.



Hydrovac removing gravel at Colony Farm.

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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