

# INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

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**Month: October 2022**

**Project Region: Lower Mainland**

**Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 21**

**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 Westridge Marine Terminal (WMT), Burnaby Terminal and on Spread 7B. Activities included wildlife management, erosion and sediment control measures, construction housekeeping, watercourse crossings, monitoring at the Colony Farm Regional Park Temporary Workspace and the TMEP Line-Wide Indigenous Monitor Gathering.

The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for October 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. [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 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 also routinely observe and participate in wildlife sweeps and salvages for various species of wildlife.

The Indigenous Monitor at WMT observed a Bald Eagle nest built on an artificial nesting platform near the Kask Bros. Temporary Infrastructure Site at WMT. The nesting platform was placed in a Western Hemlock tree in September 2017 as prescribed in the Westridge Trans Mountain Bald Eagle Mitigation Project–Nest Construction & Capping Summary Report. This nest site will be monitored in the upcoming months.

Also at the Kask Bros. Temporary Infrastructure Site, the Indigenous Monitor observed an otter trap that had been set up to capture otters living under the warehouse. One otter was trapped by the Resource Specialist and relocated to Pitt Marsh.



Bald Eagle observed at WMT.



Otter trap baited and set at the Kask Bros. Temporary Infrastructure Site at WMT.

## 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 Burnaby Terminal and WMT, the Indigenous Monitors conducted inspections to verify ESC measures throughout the terminals were installed effectively 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 terminal and along the perimeter of the Project footprint were also inspected to ensure they were free of construction materials and debris.

At Burnaby Terminal, the Indigenous Monitor observed and inspected road bars that were installed intermittently along all active gravel roadways throughout the site. The function of the road bars is to divert rainwater from the roads to into drainage ditches that flow into the Burnaby Terminal water treatment plant.



Hydroseed being applied on a slope along Lower Road at Burnaby Terminal.



Road bars created on Reservoir Road at Burnaby Terminal.

## Colony Farm Regional Park Temporary Workspace

Construction activity is underway at the Colony Farm Regional Park Temporary Workspace near KP 1167. This work area is being used as a staging area for drilling equipment and pullback section for the Fraser River horizontal directional drill (HDD).

To execute the Fraser River HDD, Trans Mountain's contractor requires a temporary workspace for staging pipe to weld and coat the drag section for the new pipe that will be pulled under the Fraser River.

The Indigenous Monitor observed and inspected various environmental mitigations at the temporary workspace, including erosion and sediment control measures, site housekeeping, dust control and secondary containment for equipment and machinery. During inspections, the Indigenous Monitor observed spill containment measures had been installed underneath operating stationary equipment and that secondary containment around the HDD borehole pit area, including polyethylene sheeting covering the berm surrounding the HDD pit, to be working effectively and mitigating potential sediment transfer into a nearby fish-bearing watercourse.

At the entrance to the construction work area, the Indigenous Monitor observed dust being created by construction truck traffic entering the site. The contractor was notified and a watering truck was deployed to spray water on the entrance road to help mitigate dust creation.

The Indigenous Monitor accompanied the Environmental Inspector on walk-throughs along the path being created to follow the route of the HDD drill. On the south side of the Fraser River HDD worksite, they observed grading of the path and installation of protective wooden matting being paced on top of the sheeting. This pathway will be used to monitor for inadvertent fluid release (IFR) during future drilling operations.



Polyethylene sheeting placed along the berm surrounding the HDD bore pit.



Protective wooden matting being placed on top of the IFR pathway on the south side of the Fraser River HDD worksite.

### Stream Bed Restoration

Once in-stream work is complete, restoration of the riparian zone is conducted including recontouring watercourse beds and banks to pre-construction conditions. Additional work includes replacing site-specific features important for fish or other aquatic organisms, and replacing salvaged topsoil, surface soils and salvaged root zone material like root balls (i.e., roots of shrubs and trees), and coarse woody debris.

At Holmes Creek (watercourse BC-783b) and Austin Creek (watercourse BC-783a) near KP 1175, the Indigenous Monitor observed watercourse restoration measures. These measures include placement of river rock to reinforce the creek bank and replacement of coarse woody debris to assist with erosion control and regrowth of vegetation. Environmental feature signage was also inspected in the vicinity. No concerns were reported.



River rock and coarse woody debris observed at Holmes Creek (watercourse BC-783b).

### TMEP Line-Wide Indigenous Monitor Gathering

Trans Mountain Indigenous Monitors from across the Project gather annually for a team meeting to collaborate and discuss the TMEP IM program and topics of interest related to environmental inspection, monitoring and Indigenous interests.

On October 21, Indigenous Monitors from spreads and terminal locations gathered in person and via Teams web conference for a line-wide meeting. This collaborative meeting covered topics including TMEP construction updates and milestones, support and information request mechanisms, environmental skills development training/career progression opportunities and team-building opportunities.



## 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	0	0	4
Fulfilled	4	-	-	-	4
Outstanding		-	-	-	

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


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