

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: April 2023

**Project Region: North Thompson
(Spread 3/4A and Spread 4B)**

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 23

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
Spread 3/4A: KP 470–696
Spread 4B: KP 697–764**

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 sites 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 North Thompson 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 North Thompson Region involving Indigenous Monitors took place from KP 470–KP 696 in Spread 3/4A and reclamation monitoring KP 697–KP 764 in Spread 4B and included temporary construction lands, wildlife management, erosion and sediment control, and right-of-way reclamation. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for April 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. 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.

Temporary Construction Lands

Temporary construction lands and infrastructure are defined for the Project as preparatory work areas to support Project construction and include temporary camps, stockpile sites and equipment staging areas. Many of the sites addressed in the Temporary Construction Lands and Infrastructure Environmental Protection Plan are on previously developed lands.

An Indigenous Monitor inspected Johnson's pit, a temporary infrastructure site on Spread 4B. This site was used for office facilities and was a construction yard for storage of equipment, pipe and other construction material.

The inspections focused on the reclamation of the site and a walk-through confirming the site was returned to its pre-construction condition. No issues were identified.



Johnson's Pit Reclamation.

Wildlife Management

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

The Indigenous Monitors participated in wildlife sweeps, including raptor and nesting bird sweeps prior to construction activities between KP 489 and KP 610 on Spread 3/4A. The Indigenous Monitor communicates daily about active nests, their mitigations and swept areas on the Project footprint. All mitigations were in place during inspection.



General area of raptor sweep KP 609.



General area of raptor sweep KP 529.



Mesh netting used as a nesting bird deterrent placed around stationary machinery at KP 504.

Erosion and Sediment Control

Site-specific erosion and sediment control (ESC) measures are implemented to prevent sediment-laden runoff from leaving the right-of-way or from entering watercourses and wetlands. Key areas where ESC measures are required can include soil excavations, exposed slopes, soil stockpiles and locations near watercourses.

On-site ESC mitigations may include sediment fences, swales, wattles, rock armouring, erosion control blankets and hydroseeding, coarse woody debris (CWD), as well as water drainage control measures.

ESC measures are a major focus as crews prepare for spring runoff. Indigenous Monitors inspected ESC mitigations, including wing walls and silt fencing through several wetlands. Indigenous Monitors inspected erosion control blankets secured with willow stakes, rock armouring, swales and placement of CWD in and around the several watercourse crossings and steep slopes, including BC-90 KP 561, BC-174 KP 602, BC-193b KP 629, BC-286 KP 687 and BC-318 KP 732. No deficiencies were identified.



Restoration complete BC-337 KP 755.



Seeding and ESC installed KP 757.

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 North Thompson region, including discing for soil decompaction, topsoil replacement, confirming topsoil depth and confirmation that proper seed mixes are applied. Indigenous Monitors worked with Environmental Inspectors to ensure mitigation measures were in place during reclamation activities and that proper topsoil depths were confirmed.



Wetland reclamation at KP 606.

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	0	0	2	0	2
Fulfilled	0	-	2	-	2
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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