

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: February 2023

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

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 24

**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 KP 697–KP 764 in Spread 4B and included temporary construction lands, wildlife management, dewatering and fish salvage, Traditional Land Use (TLU) sites and topsoil stripping and backfill. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for February 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 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 the Vavenby and Johnson's Pit yard. These sites are being used for office facilities, a construction yard for storage of equipment and other construction material during construction.

Key aspects of the inspections included housekeeping and waste management, including proper waste disposal, and using drip trays. In addition, spill kits and spill response procedures were reviewed at site. Loose miscellaneous debris was identified and disposed of during the inspections.



Vavenby yard inspection KP 697.



Johnson's Pit yard inspection KP 724

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 sweeps alongside the Resource Specialist prior to construction activities. Indigenous Monitors joined the Resource Specialist to conduct bird sweeps between KP 525 and 720. All mitigations were in place during inspection. No issues were identified.



General area raptor sweep conducted KP 720.

Foam Creek Dewatering and Fish Salvage

Environmental mitigation measures for in-stream work are detailed in the Work Authorization/Permit for this region. Mitigation measures required for in-stream work include but are not limited to biosecurity cleaning of equipment, secondary containment of hydrocarbons, stream bed material, fish salvage water quality monitoring and sediment/erosion control.

The Indigenous Monitor observed the construction contractor install diversion pumps and hoses used to dewater the isolated work area of Foam Creek. Hoses were placed on plywood to reduce the potential impacts of topsoil scouring, soil erosion and water quality turbidity increases. The Indigenous Monitors observed the hoses were working as intended and water was flowing onto the plywood. No adverse environmental impacts were identified during inspection.

Indigenous Monitors also observed and assisted with the fish salvage conducted by Environmental Resource Specialists. Several fish were salvaged and released downstream of the crossing. No environmental concerns were identified during inspection.



Fish salvage Foam Creek BC 193b KP 629.



Fish salvage Foam Creek BC 193b KP 629.

TLU Sites

Resource Specific Mitigation Tables and Environmental Alignment Sheets are used to identify locations of and summarize specified mitigation for previously identified historical resources and TLU areas. Such locations have been identified via TLU studies conducted by Indigenous groups and archaeology baseline assessments conducted over many years of Project planning.

During pre-construction survey activities, previously identified TLU areas are marked with flagging ribbon and stakes by Resource Specialist crews during the environmental flagging and staking program. Signage is also installed to indicate to construction crews that a feature is present in the area.

Indigenous Monitors inspected TLU areas and archaeological sites to verify staking and signage



Mitigations in place TLU-30 and TLU-31.

remains in good standing condition. Sites inspected include but are not limited to TLU-30, TLU-31 and TLU-32. Ongoing monitoring by the Indigenous Monitors continues at such sites.



Mitigations in place TLU-32.

Topsoil Stripping and Backfill

Topsoil stripping, pipe installation and backfill activities continue. When removing soil in construction areas, required mitigation includes segregation of topsoil from root zone material, proper storage to reduce potential erosion, effective labelling and signage, and inspection of soil piles to ensure they are within the survey limits of the right-of-way and no soil has gone outside these limits.

The Indigenous Monitors noted mitigations for topsoil piles to reduce erosion potential, including grading, separation of wetland soils from upland soils and shaping of piles to prevent erosion. Inspections were conducted for the excavated soil placed in the trench over the installed pipe. The Indigenous Monitors observed sand and subsoil being backfilled over the pipe prior to topsoil being replaced and ensured backfill activities were confined to the construction right-of-way. No issues or potential chance finds were identified.



Backfill in progress KP 562.

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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