

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: March 2022

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

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 27

**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 470–696 in Spread 3/4A and 697–764 in Spread 4B and included pump station inspections, construction site housekeeping, watercourse crossings, Culturally Modified Tree (CMT) sweeps and timber salvage inspections. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for March 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. 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.

Trans Mountain COVID-19 – Our Response

Trans Mountain is actively monitoring the COVID-19 situation with the help of federal, provincial and local agencies. Trans Mountain's top priority remains the health and safety of its workforce, their families and our communities.

For more information: transmountain.com/covid19

Pump Station Inspections

In March, an Indigenous Monitor and an Environmental Inspector conducted environmental inspections at the McMurphy Pump Station, following the measures outlined in Trans Mountain's Facilities Environmental Protection Plan. McMurphy is the only pump station with active construction in this region currently. The inspections included site general housekeeping, waste segregation, recycling and equipment inspections (ensuring proper use of drip trays).

During the inspection at the McMurphy Pump Station (KP 667.2), erosion and sediment control measures were inspected and observed to be in good repair; waste segregation was executed properly; and open excavations were properly delineated with signage, snow fence and larger physical barriers when needed. No concerns were identified at the time of inspection.



McMurphy Pump Station KP 667.



McMurphy Pump Station KP 667.

Construction Site Housekeeping

Indigenous Monitors in the North Thompson region regularly conduct inspections of the various construction areas for general housekeeping measures. This includes observing and documenting garbage and recycling disposal, scrap metal management, waste storage, fuel storage and proper use of vehicle and equipment spill kits.

Waste or construction materials not properly disposed of or secured are flagged to the Environmental Inspectors and respective contractor site services crew for cleanup. The recycling bins are also inspected to make sure waste is properly segregated into the right categories. These include metal, wood, general waste, construction waste and bottles.

In March, an Indigenous Monitor observed a leak in a drip tray under a light plant at KP 526. The leak was reported and cleaned appropriately, and the light plant was removed from service. No other deficiencies were identified at the time of inspection.



Spill tray under light plant at KP 526 Canoe River BC-36.

Watercourse Crossings

Environmental mitigation measures for in-stream construction of the watercourses are prescribed in the provincial permit and the watercourse crossing plan. Mitigation measures required for in-stream construction 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 Monitors observed the contactor prepare and execute in-stream work at various locations. In BC-82a, BC-36 Canoe River, BC-33 Cranberry Creek, Albreda River, BC-168 Thunder River, BC-173 Whitewater Creek, BC-335 Spokane Creek, BC-176 Cook Creek, the upstream water was diverted downstream of the crossing area to maintain natural flow conditions and water quality.

The Indigenous Monitor also observed and assisted with fish salvage and reclamation. Several streams completed reclamation in March. During stream bank and bed restoration Indigenous Monitors discussed with Resource Specialists efforts made to recreate fish habitat using various sized rock and coarse woody debris. No environmental concerns or deficiencies were found during these inspections.



Upstream isolation in place at BC-82 Albreda River KP 557.



Bank restoration complete BC-82 Albreda River KP 557.



Creek bank restoration complete at BC-168 Thunder River KP 596.


Culturally Modified Trees (CMT)

Resource-Specific Mitigation Tables and Environmental Alignment Sheets are used to illustrate 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 that have been conducted in relation to the Project for many years. If a site or location is observed in the field that may be a previously unidentified TLU area, the TLU Site Discovery Contingency Plan is followed.

An Indigenous Monitor participated in the implementation of the TLU Site Discovery



CMT sweep KP 563.

<p>Contingency Plan near KP 596 and KP 634 where trees were identified that were thought to be potentially culturally modified. Indigenous Monitors continued to conduct CMT sweeps ahead of construction activity. Trees found during CMT sweeps were examined by the Indigenous Monitor and Environmental Inspectors on-site to collect initial information. The areas were flagged off for additional evaluation. Resource Specialists and Knowledge Holders of Indigenous Monitor's communities were contacted for evaluation of the trees and potential mitigation. The engagement process with applicable Indigenous groups was initiated to share information about the resource and seek feedback. Trees determined to be culturally modified are responded to with agreed upon mitigation and actions in each case.</p>	
<p>Timber Salvage</p> <p>Trans Mountain has a Timber Salvage Plan outlining practices around management and handling of trees cleared along the right-of-way. Any merchantable timber is delivered to mills, or if on private land, the landowner is compensated.</p> <p>Trans Mountain is working with Indigenous communities that have identified timber salvage interests. In some areas, communities have identified timber that can be salvaged for teepee poles, ceremonial purposes or firewood.</p> <p>The Indigenous Monitors have been involved in inspecting the removal of the merchantable timber as per the Timber Salvage Plan.</p>	 <p>Merchantable timber ready for transport KP 634.</p>

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 and 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	1	0	1
Fulfilled	-	-	1	-	1
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

CONTACT US:

Trans Mountain

 info@transmountain.com

 1.866.514.6700

 transmountain.com



[@TransMtn](https://twitter.com/TransMtn)



youtube.com/transmtn



PO Box 81018
Burnaby, BC V5H 3B0

