

## INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

---

**Month: May 2023**

**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–KP 696 in Spread 3/4A and reclamation monitoring KP 697–KP 764 in Spread 4B and included temporary construction lands, wildlife management and watercourse restoration inspections. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for May 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](mailto:info@transmountain.com) or call 1.866.514.6700.**

## Spread 4B 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 on Spread 4B, including discing for soil decompaction, topsoil replacement, confirming topsoil depth and confirmation that proper seed mixes are applied, bird sweeps conducted before reclamation activity and maintenance of Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) measures.

Indigenous Monitors worked with Environmental Inspectors to ensure mitigation measures were in place during reclamation activities and that proper topsoil depths were confirmed. The Indigenous Monitor reviewed daily communications about bird sweeps conducted and locations of active nests. Monitoring of ESC measures are ongoing. Deteriorating ESC measures were added to the deficiencies list and repaired promptly. No other issues were identified.



Bird sweep conducted KP 733.



Topsoil replacement and ongoing reclamation KP 706.



Monitor watercourse restoration BC-344 KP 764.

## 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 647 on Spread 3/4A. The Indigenous Monitor reviewed daily communications about active nests, their mitigations and swept areas on the Project footprint. All mitigations were in place during inspection.



General area of bird sweep KP 493.

## 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 the Valemount Camp during its closure at end of May 2023. The camp closed as the construction workforce in the Valemount area is decreasing with the final kilometres of pipeline construction complete and the remaining crews focusing on southern parts of Spread 3/4A

The site, which was active from July 2020 to May 28, 2023, was operated by Tsetsk'wem Management Services – a Joint Venture between Simpcw Resource Group and ATCO, a partnership formed specifically for the Expansion Project.

The Valemount camp inspections focused on housekeeping and the reclamation work to be completed. The Indigenous Monitor is anticipated to return for additional inspections as reclamation of the site is undertaken. No issues were identified.



Valemount Camp.



Valemount Camp.



Valemount Camp Entrance.

## Watercourse Restoration Inspection

Environmental mitigation measures for in-stream construction of watercourses are prescribed in the provincial permits and the watercourse crossing plans, and in some cases, a Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) authorization. Mitigation measures required for in-stream construction include but are not limited to biosecurity cleaning of equipment, secondary containment of hydrocarbons, salvaging of stream bed material, fish salvage, water quality monitoring and sediment/erosion control. When instream work is complete, Indigenous Monitors regularly monitor watercourse crossings. Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) measures are monitored; these measures mitigate erosion and sediment transport from construction sites to downstream areas and



Restoration monitoring BC-66 KP 548.

watercourses. On-site ESC mitigations may include sediment fences, swales, wattles, rock armouring, erosion control blankets and hydroseeding, as well as water drainage control measures.

Indigenous Monitors inspected the effectiveness of restorations completed at BC-66 KP 548, BC-90 KP 561, BC-107 KP 573, BC-110 KP 576, BC-174 KP 602, BC-318 KP 732 and BC-319 KP 732. This included observing site transplant areas, including erosion control blanket, willow stakes in riparian zones, reseeding in previously excavated and backfilled areas, rock armouring and stream bed material replacement. The mitigations were installed and working as planned. No deficiencies were identified.



Restoration monitoring BC-107 KP 573.

## 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)

**CONTACT US:**  
Trans Mountain

 [info@transmountain.com](mailto:info@transmountain.com)  
 1.866.514.6700  
 [transmountain.com](http://transmountain.com)

  @TransMtn  
 [youtube.com/transmntn](https://youtube.com/transmntn)

 [linkedin.com/company/transmountain](https://www.linkedin.com/company/transmountain)

 PO Box 81018  
Burnaby, BC V5H 3B0

