

## INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

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**Month: November 2023**  
**Project Region: North Thompson**  
**(Spread 3/4A and Spread 4B)**

**Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 26**  
**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 erosion and sediment control (ESC), watercourse restoration monitoring, Traditional Land Use (TLU) sites and reclamation. Construction on Spread 3/4A and 4B is mechanically complete; machine cleanup, final cleanup and seeding is ongoing in Spread 3/4A and complete in Spread 4B. Remaining final cleanup and reclamation activities are anticipated to occur in spring/summer 2024. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for November 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 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

The Indigenous Monitor worked with an Environmental Inspector to ensure mitigation measures are in place. Spread 4B has no open work fronts and no dedicated crews. The Indigenous Monitor monitored ESC measures and matting removal activities. No environmental concerns were identified.



Mat removal near KP 754.

### 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. The Indigenous Monitor inspected ESC mitigations on spread 3/4A between KP 490 and KP 683, including wing walls and silt fencing through several wetlands, erosion control blankets secured with willow stakes, rock armouring, swales and placement of CWD in and around the several watercourse crossings and steep slopes. Locations monitored included BC-166 KP 596, BC-167 KP 596, BC-168 KP 596, BC-172 KP 600, BC-172a KP 600 BC-173 KP 601, BC-175a KP 604 and BC-176 KP 605. No deficiencies were identified.



Seeding and ESC in place KP 558.

## Watercourse Restoration Monitoring

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 in-stream 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 watercourses.

Indigenous Monitors inspected the effectiveness of restorations completed for several watercourses in Spread 3/4A, including BC-166 KP 596, BC-167 KP 596, BC-168 KP 596, BC-172 KP 600, BC-172a KP 600 BC-173 KP 601, BC-175a KP 604 and BC-176 KP 605. The Indigenous Monitor observed site housekeeping efforts, recontour of the bank and transplant areas, including erosion control blanket, willow stakes in riparian zones, reseeding in previously excavated and backfilled areas, and rock armouring and stream bed material replacement. These mitigations were installed and working as planned.



Creek restoration complete BC-83 KP 558.



Restoration at WT-31a KP 559.

## 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.



TLU 32 Reclamation complete. Regrowth of Labrador tea in plant gathering site.



<p>Indigenous Monitors inspected TLU areas and archaeological sites to verify staking and signage has been removed post reclamation.</p>	 <p>TLU 30 buffer and signage removed post reclamation. No impact observed.</p>
<p><b>Reclamation</b></p> <p>Subsoil is decompacted 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.</p> <p>Indigenous Monitors inspected various reclamation activities on Spread 3/4A, including discing for soil decompaction, topsoil replacement, confirming topsoil depth, erosion and sediment control measures, confirmation that proper seed mixes are applied and monitoring regrowth and stability. Indigenous Monitors worked with Environmental Inspectors to ensure mitigation measures were in place and working as intended during reclamation activities. Indigenous monitors also returned to previously reclaimed areas to inspect regrowth and to make sure no construction debris is left behind. No deficiencies were identified.</p>	 <p>Reclamation complete KP 493.</p>  <p>Reclamation and regrowth KP 519.</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 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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