

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: October 2022
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 470–696 in Spread 3/4A and KP 697–764 in Spread 4B and included Culturally Modified Trees (CMTs), temporary construction lands, airbridge installation, environmental features and Traditional Land Use (TLU), erosion and sediment control, pump-off and the TMEP Line-Wide Indigenous Monitor Gathering. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for October 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 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.

Airbridge Installation

An airbridge was installed at KP 746. Airbridges allow access at areas of the construction site that require moving heavy equipment safely across active pipelines or gas lines. Air bridges are designed to support the weight of heavy equipment while protecting the underlying pipeline, culvert or other subterranean material that require bridging.

Indigenous Monitors observed mitigation measures during the air bridge installation, which included installation and maintenance of erosion and sediment control measures. Such mitigations are installed to avoid or minimize erosion and the potential discharge of sediment or other substances into any nearby watercourses and connecting drainage systems. All appropriate signage was in place and noted per the Environmental Protection Plan. The Indigenous Monitors conducted walk-throughs of the area to check for any potential culturally significant items; no culturally significant items or other concerns were identified.



Bridge installation at KP 746 near Lemiux Creek.

Environmental Features and TLU Site

The Indigenous Monitors conducted inspections in areas of known environmental features to ensure buffer zones are clearly flagged and staked. As part of pre-construction activity, environmental features such as wildlife species of concern, rare plants and rare ecological communities, archaeological features, wetlands, watercourses, TLU sites and any other sensitive environmental features are staked, flagged and sometimes fenced by Resource Specialist teams. The features are clearly marked so they can be appropriately protected during construction.

An Indigenous Monitor inspected a rare plant area near KP 670. Signage was in place and the area was staked and flagged. No impact to the protected area or other concerns were identified.



Rare plant buffer zone KP 670.



Rare plant VG 91 SU, BC 258a KP 670.

Erosion and Sediment Control

Erosion and sediment control measures (ESC) are monitored and inspected to ensure they are functioning as intended to mitigate erosion and sediment transport from construction sites to downstream areas, including watercourses. On-site ESC mitigations include sediment fences, swales, wattles, straw, polyethylene sheeting, coco matting and hydroseeding, as well as water drainage control measures, including coarse woody debris (CWD).

An Indigenous Monitor performed an inspection of ESC measures in place near KP 691. Coco matting was installed on both banks to help protect the integrity of the bank and retain sediment. This area was hydroseeded. When vegetation is re-established, it will act as primary ESC. No issues or environmental concerns were identified during the inspection.



Multiple ESC measures in place at KP 691.



CWD stockpile KP 496.

Pump-Off

To keep trench excavation areas dewatered and stable during pipeline construction, water that accumulates from precipitation or groundwater seepage is pumped off and relocated to an approved location either on or off the construction footprint. At KP 745 and 746, water accumulating in the excavated pipeline trench was pumped off to a settling containment system and filter bags. Water flowing out of the filtration system was discharged upland to a well-vegetated area.

An Indigenous Monitor inspected to ensure the settling containment system was functioning as intended and that no sediment loading was identified at the discharge point. It was observed that pump-off water was released a minimum of 50 m from the nearest watercourse, replacement materials were readily available, including sediment control devices, pumps, spills kits and secondary containment, and good housekeeping practices at off-construction footprint locations. No deficiencies were identified.



Pump-off location KP 745.



Pump-off location KP 746.

Culturally Modified Trees (CMT)

Resource-Specific Mitigation Tables (RSMT) 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 conducted in relation to the Project for more than seven 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 performed CMT sweeps ahead of construction between KP 548-563. No potential chance finds were found and construction began in inspected areas. No cultural or environmental concerns were identified.



CMT sweep completed with no chance finds KP 548.



CMT sweep completed, no chance finds KP 548.

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 Blue River yard. This temporary infrastructure site is located near the Blue River Camp. The site is being used for office facilities, a construction yard for storage of equipment, pipe, and other construction material during construction of the Expansion Project.

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



Blue River yard inspection KP 611.

TMEP Line-Wide Indigenous Monitor Gathering

Trans Mountain Indigenous Monitors from across the Project gather annually for a team meeting to collaborate and discuss the TMEP IM program and topics of interest related to environmental inspection, monitoring and Indigenous interests.

On October 21, 2022, IMs from spreads and terminal locations gathered in person and via Teams web conference for a line-wide meeting. This collaborative meeting covered topics, including TMEP construction updates and milestones, support and information request mechanisms, environmental skills development training/career progression opportunities and team-building opportunities.

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

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