

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: May 2021

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 25

Project Region: Jasper to Mount
Robson Reactivation
(Hinton to Hargreaves)

Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
322–461

Indigenous Monitors on the Trans Mountain Expansion Project – Overview

The Trans Mountain Expansion Project (TMEP) is retaining Indigenous Monitors as integrated members of its construction Environmental Inspection team. Indigenous Monitors work with Environmental Inspectors to monitor compliance with approved mitigation measures to minimize impacts to traditional resource use and cultural/heritage impacts during TMEP construction.

Operations and maintenance work, including integrity digs and sleeve replacements occurring along the deactivated pipeline segments in Jasper National Park and Mount Robson Provincial Park is not part of TMEP nor subject to TMEP Conditions. However, Trans Mountain will be including Indigenous Monitors during certain operations and maintenance work in reactivation areas as it relates to preparing for future TMEP construction activities.

This Overview Report provides highlights of the Indigenous Monitors' day-to-day work and key highlights observed by the Monitors in the Jasper to Mount Robson Reactivation region (Hinton to Hargreaves), specifically Jasper National Park and Mount Robson Provincial Park. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Indigenous Monitor activities to Indigenous groups. During this reporting period, key activities in the Jasper to Mount Robson Reactivation region include activities related to danger tree assessments, reclamation –site-specific seeding plans, watercourse crossing in-stream activities and wildlife management.

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.

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. Measures being undertaken at construction sites include: temperature screening; following physical distancing guidelines, staggering work shifts and breaks; eliminating or minimizing in-person meetings; enhancing cleaning and sanitizing; and ensuring workers' orientation includes COVID 19 expectations, awareness and prevention.

For more information: transmountain.com/covid19

Danger Tree Assessments

Trees that create a hazard to the public, workers or the safe operation of facilities due to their proximity to the construction site, roads, trails or structures are deemed danger trees. Danger trees on the edge of the Project footprint are assessed so every reasonable effort can be made to retain (and if necessary, modify to remove dangerous portions) suitable nest trees as an alternate to complete removal. In the Reactivation area, danger trees are not removed from locations greater than one tree length from the construction site (Project footprint), trails, electrical conductors or structures.

In May, when danger tree assessments were conducted in the Reactivation area at Dig 57 and Dig 40, the Indigenous Monitor participated to ensure any potential Traditional Land Use (TLU) features associated with identified danger trees were reported and environmental mitigations applied. The Indigenous Monitors did not identify TLU features or environmental mitigation deficiencies during the danger tree assessments.



Area near Dig 57 assessed for danger trees .

Wildlife Management

Mitigation measures, including wildlife sweeps, have been developed to minimize potential negative effects on wildlife in Jasper National Park and Mount Robson Provincial Park, and to protect the safety of workers related to potential wildlife interactions. In May, the Indigenous Monitor participated in wildlife sweeps, including amphibians, raptors, nesting migratory birds and ground squirrels alongside the Trans Mountain Wildlife Resource Specialist and the Environmental Inspector.

During the migratory bird window (Jasper National Park March 15 to August 31 and Mount Robson Provincial Park February 5 to September 6), bird and bird nest sweeps occur regularly. The Indigenous Monitor participated in wildlife sweeps at Yellowhead Station, Dig 41a, Dig 40 and Dig 16/17. At Dig 22b a concentrated sweep for Ground Squirrels was conducted and no squirrel mounds or animals were identified.



Inactive bird nest identified during bird sweep near Dig 40 in Reactivation.

Reclamation – Site-Specific Planting

Reclamation is an important step in returning disturbed sites on Reactivation to a stable condition similar to the site's condition prior to the construction activity. Establishing a vegetative cover compatible with surrounding vegetation to maintain equivalent land capability after construction and deterring the proliferation of weeds, are some of the environmental mitigation measures outlined in the Reactivation site-specific planting plans.

To establish a temporary vegetative cover to limit erosion of backfilled dig sites while permanent reclamation activities are completed, a seed mixture is applied as prescribed in the site-specific planting plans. Site-specific seed mixes were developed by Jasper National Park for reclamation use within the worksite construction footprint. Seed mix composition takes into consideration site conditions, including climate and soil properties. A native seed mix suitable for moist sites will be applied to protect reclaimed land from erosion and to assist in suppressing weeds, while native plant cover is re-established. General Sites mix will be used for upland areas and Moist Sites mix will be used for lowland areas and on watercourse terrace or floodplain areas.

In May, the Indigenous Monitor observed and participated in the seeding of Dig 60, Dig 27, Dig 5, Dig 3 and Sleeve 5 as prescribed in the Reactivation Site-Specific Planting Plans.



Jasper National Park-approved seed mixture applied at Sleeve 5 in Reactivation.

Watercourse Crossings In-Stream Work

In May, the Indigenous Monitor observed in-stream isolation work activities at Dig 56 and Unnamed Creek 338. The range of environmental mitigations monitored included, but were not limited to, fish salvage, de-watering and grey water management, water quality monitoring for turbidity and equipment inspections (use of drip trays). Indigenous Monitors found the sites to be operating in accordance with site-specific crossing plans.



Grey water filter bag at Unnamed Creek 338.

Indigenous Monitor Request Dashboard

Indigenous Monitors are provided 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: request for Project reports, input from an environmental resource specialist or on-site support from an Elder or other cultural knowledge holder. Monthly 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	1	-	-	-	1
Fulfilled	1	-	-	-	1
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	0

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

📺 youtube.com/transmtn

in

📍 PO Box 81018
Burnaby, BC V5H 3B0

