

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: August 2021

Project Region: Lower Mainland

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 26

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
Spread 7 KP 1166.515–1173.622**

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 impacts 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 Lower Mainland. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Indigenous Monitor activity to Indigenous groups.

During this reporting period, key Project activities in the Lower Mainland region involving Indigenous Monitors included construction at Westridge Marine Terminal (WMT), Burnaby Terminal and on Spread 7. Activities included TMEP Indigenous Monitor Cultural Presentation and Collaboration, Fraser River HDD, Burnett River GHAB, Environmental Features and Traditional Land Use (TLU) sites, construction housekeeping, and erosion and sediment control.

The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for August 2021, 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.

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

TMEP Indigenous Monitor Cultural Presentation and Collaboration

Indigenous Monitors are integrated members of the TMEP Environmental Inspection team and work together with TMEP project management representatives, site construction contractor personnel and Trans Mountain resource specialists. One important aspect of this collaboration is to create two-way dialogue and to learn from the Indigenous Monitors about their community, culture, history, territory, work experience and many other areas.

The Indigenous Monitors working at Burnaby Terminal delivered presentations they had prepared about their community, territory, history and previous work experience. The presentations were delivered to Trans Mountain and contractor personnel and were extremely well received. In addition to day-to-day communications, these engagements provide another platform for team members to learn from each other, enhance cultural awareness and support skills development for the Indigenous Monitors.

Another example of collaboration was the naming of the tunnel boring machine (TBM) at WMT. In August, a member of the Indigenous Monitor's community presented the team at WMT with a traditional name for the TBM. The individual who presented the name also designed a logo for the TBM (displayed in the picture).



Name and logo for the tunnel boring machine presented to the team at WMT.

Environmental Features/Traditional Land Use Sites

During construction, previously identified cultural use areas are monitored along the right-of-way. Such locations have been identified during TLU studies conducted by Indigenous groups prior to construction. As part of the Environmental Protection Plan, there is a Traditional Land Use Sites Discovery Contingency Plan that outlines steps to be taken if previously unidentified TLU sites are identified during construction.

On Spread 7, the Indigenous Monitors inspected previously identified environmental features, including wildlife habitat, and TLU areas along the right-of-way, ensuring mitigations were in place including flagging buffers and correct and visible signage around TLU features at CWP 87, CWP 88 and CWP 98. Feature flagging and signage of Barn Owl habitat near the future GHAB site at CWP 77 and potential habitat for Western Painted Turtle at the watercourse BC-782C on CWP 87 were also inspected. No concerns were noted.



Signage near the watercourse BC-782C at CWP 87 (KP 1173.21) indicating potential habitat for the Western Painted Turtle.

Erosion and Sediment Control

Erosion and sediment control (ESC) mitigation measures are monitored and inspected by the Indigenous Monitors throughout the Lower Mainland sites to ensure they are functioning as intended to mitigate erosion and sediment transport from construction sites to downstream areas, including watercourses or the marine environment. On-site ESC mitigations include sediment fences, swales, wattles, straw, poly sheeting, coco matting and hydroseeding. Another mitigation at WMT and Burnaby Terminal to reduce dirt and soil from being transported off-site by wind, vehicle traffic or foot traffic is using a street sweeper and water truck. A tire wash is also used at Burnaby Terminal to reduce transport of dirt from dump trucks and other equipment when leaving site.



Water truck at Burnaby Terminal spraying down dust on site road.

Fraser River Horizontal Directional Drill

Construction activity on the Fraser River horizontal directional drill (HDD) laydown yard at Colony Farm (KP 1167.8) resumed in August. Placement of protective wood matting in the laydown yard continued throughout August in anticipation of the delivery of pipe in September and the commencement of pipe assembly.

During this activity at Colony Farm, the Indigenous Monitors observed the Trans Mountain Wildlife Resource Specialist conduct daily wildlife sweeps (including amphibians, snails, birds and small mammals) and inspected the bird deterrents previously installed on the site. During one sweep, a small garter snake was found and relocated.

At Colony Farm, the Indigenous Monitors also inspected that specific mitigation measures were properly installed and maintained for a cottonwood wildlife tree. A root compaction assessment was completed in May by the Trans Mountain Resource Specialist and appropriate mitigation measures to protect the tree's root system identified. The wildlife tree is located off the right-of-way; however, after the root compaction assessment was conducted, the Resource Specialist recommended a geotextile sheet be placed in the vicinity, with gravel placed on top and finally covered with protective wood matting. These specific mitigations were installed properly as observed by the Indigenous Monitor.

On the southside of the Fraser River at CWP 59 (KP 1164.8) where the HDD will finish, the Indigenous Monitors observed tree clearing and grubbing and the laying of protective wood matting. No concerns were noted.



Protective wood matting placed at Colony Farm.



Garter snake found and relocated.

Brunette River Tributaries – Trenchless Crossing

The Project is preparing for the guided horizontal auger bore (GHAB) trenchless pipeline watercourse crossing that will extend under two tributaries of the Brunette River (Keswick Park Creek and Unnamed Channel). To create temporary workspaces for construction, vegetation will be removed in a section on the north bank of the Brunette River east of the Brunette Avenue Interchange in New Westminster. This riparian area is designated by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) as critical habitat for the Nooksack Dace fish (*Rhinichthys cataractae*), which is listed as Endangered under Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act*.

Trans Mountain has obtained a *Species at Risk Act* permit issued by DFO to work in the riparian area of CWP 88 and CWP 89 along the Brunette River.

In August the Indigenous Monitor inspected CWP 88 and 89 daily. Inspections and observations included:

- Daily water sampling by the Trans Mountain Resource Specialist to document turbidity and total suspended solids in the Brunette River at upstream and downstream locations, adjacent to the construction area.
- Inspection of erosion and sediment control mitigations. Observation of missing poly sheeting on an exposed slope and subsoil piles and a deficient silt fence were reported by the Indigenous Monitor to the Environmental Inspector who notified the contractor to rectify the deficiencies.
- Inspection that TLU site flagging and signage was installed effectively. No concerns were noted.



Poly sheeting and signage effectively placed at CWP 89.



Brunette River at the CWP 89 location.

Construction Site Housekeeping

The Indigenous Monitors at all sites in the Lower Mainland 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, secondary containment of equipment and hydrocarbons, and proper storage and use of vehicle and equipment spill kits.

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

Prior to statutory holiday long weekends, the Indigenous Monitor and Environmental Inspector conducts an inspection of site garbage and recycling receptacles and make recommendations to the contractor on priority areas to be dealt with before the site closes for the holiday. At WMT, the Indigenous Monitor observed some minor deficiencies with construction debris segregation in the Manifold Area. The contractor was notified and remedied the deficiency. The Indigenous Monitor at WMT observed the removal of soil contaminated with asbestos from site. Proper mitigations were followed, including lining the bin with polyethylene sheeting and applying clear labels to the bin.



Placement of polyethylene sheeting into construction waste bin at WMT.

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	2	0	0	0	2
Fulfilled	1	-	-	-	1
Outstanding	1	-	-	-	1

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

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