

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: August 2021

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 27

Project Region: Yellowhead, Spread 2

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
KP 94–377**

Indigenous Monitors on the Trans Mountain Expansion Project – Overview

The Trans Mountain Expansion Project (the Project or TMEP) is retaining 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 Yellowhead 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 Yellowhead Region involving Indigenous Monitors took place from KP 134–377 in Spread 2 and included monitoring pump station construction, sediment control, maintenance of Traditional Land Use (TLU) sites and wildlife observation and management. 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

Pump Station Inspection

As part of the Trans Mountain Expansion Project, 12 new pump stations are being added to the pipeline system, 11 for the new pipeline and one for the existing pipeline. Pump stations are a critical component of the operations of the pipeline system. They contain electric motors to drive the pumps that maintain the pressure and flow rate in the pipeline.

In August, a joint inspection of the Gainford Pump Station near KP 116 was conducted by an Environmental Inspector and an Indigenous Monitor. The Facilities Environmental Protection Plan was reviewed and referenced during the inspection to ensure correct mitigations were identified. The inspection included observing the site's waste management procedures and disposal bins. Indigenous Monitors observed secondary containment in use on equipment and no surface spills were identified during inspection. No environmental concerns were noted at the time of the inspection.



New line coming into Gainford pump station KP116.

Access Management

The Environmental Field Guide for Access Management considers sensitive environmental features such as soils, vegetation, fish and fish habitat, and wildlife and wildlife habitat. The goal is to maximize the use of existing access to limit creating new access. If new access is required, Living Resource Specific Mitigation Tables (LRSMT) outline locations for potential access and indicate the mitigation measures necessary to develop each access point.

In August, Indigenous Monitors and an Environmental Inspector installed boundary stakes (KP 133) where clearing for access will take place. They referred to the LRSMT and noted that no stumping or grubbing would take place in this area to ensure the root mat would remain intact. Hand felling, matting and geotech will be used in the area to protect the root mat. The Indigenous Monitors will continue to monitor construction progress and note that the proper mitigation measures are in place. There were no environmental concerns at the time of inspection.



Access location KP133+350.



Signage and flagging installed.

Sediment Control

Site-specific sediment control measures are implemented to prevent sediment-laden runoff from entering watercourses. The Indigenous Monitors inspect the right-of-way periodically to ensure sediment control measures are in place.

One kilometre west of the Wolf Pump Station, Indigenous Monitors observed that sediment fencing was installed. They noted that it remained in good condition and was functioning properly. If a deficiency was identified, an Environmental Inspector would be notified and corrective actions would promptly occur. There were no concerns identified at this location.



Straw wattles on north slope of January Creek.



Two rows of silt fence at riparian buffer zone near KP206.

TLU Sites

During construction, cultural use areas are noted 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, a TLU Sites Discovery Contingency Plan outlines steps to take if previously unidentified TLU sites are identified during construction.

Indigenous Monitors inspected previously identified TLU sites along the right-of-way, including but not limited to: TLU-7, TLU-8, TLU-9, TLU-12, TLU-13 and TLU-14. Mitigation measures in place included signage, flagging and documentation of any current use. Indigenous Monitors report deficiencies in these mitigations to an Environmental Inspector. Indigenous Monitors assist where possible with corrective actions and confirm completion. An Indigenous Monitor noted that the signage for TLU-14 was incorrectly placed. The Environmental Inspector entered the corrective action and signage was moved to the appropriate position. There are no outstanding deficiencies at the above-mentioned sites.



Monitoring previously identified TLU sites along the right-of-way near KP 132.

Wildlife Observation and Management

Wildlife observation and management is ongoing. The Indigenous Monitors participate in discussions relating to wildlife protection strategies with the Environmental Inspectors and Trans Mountain Wildlife Resource Specialists and monitor and inspect that mitigation measures are effectively in place.

During inspection of a watercourse crossing area at January Creek KP 206, Indigenous Monitors observed Deer and Moose signs. All construction activities incorporate mitigations that consider the presence and movement of wildlife. There were no concerns found at this location.



Deer sign near January Creek KP206.




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. 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	6	1	5	-	12
Fulfilled	6	1	5	-	12
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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


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