

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: February 2021

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 6

Project Region: Yellowhead (Spread 2)

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
134–337**

Indigenous Monitors on the Trans Mountain Expansion Project – Overview

The Trans Mountain Expansion Project (the Project) 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 Yellowhead region. 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 Yellowhead Region involving Indigenous Monitors were focused around KP 134-337 and included wildlife encounters and monitoring environmental features, bridge installation and wetland monitoring, and associated mitigations for grading and hydrovac activities. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for February 2021, which reports environmental events and deficiencies in Tables 4 and 5 respectively, is found [here](#).

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. Trans Mountain and its construction contractors are working diligently together to adhere to all advice and direction from government and health officials, while ensuring the safe uninterrupted operation of the Trans Mountain Pipeline and the continued, safe construction of the Expansion Project. Measures being undertaken at construction sites include: following physical distancing guidelines, staggering work shifts and breaks; eliminating or minimizing in-person meetings; and enhancing cleaning and sanitizing; and ensuring workers orientation includes COVID 19 expectations, awareness and prevention.

For more information: transmountain.com/covid19

Wildlife Encounters

Indigenous Monitors made records of wildlife markings while on the construction footprint. Wildlife observations included wolf, moose, mule and white tail deer and bear markings. These observations are documented and reported to the Lead Environmental Inspector to ensure proper safety communication for the site. Pre-construction baseline surveys have been undertaken for the Project to understand wildlife activity and habitat features and how to best implement mitigations to reduce interactions between wildlife populations and the Project.

Mitigations for wildlife during construction include:

- Report any incidents or collisions with wildlife to Trans Mountain who will consult with the Appropriate Government Authorities and the local conservation officer, if applicable.
- Maintain a tight construction spread (i.e., stringing to backfilling) and construct the pipeline in an efficient manner to limit the duration of sensory disturbance to wildlife.
- Do not harass or feed wildlife. Do not store food in beds of pickup trucks or areas readily accessible to wildlife.



Bear markings on tree west of Hinton.

Watercourse Monitoring

Construction has been completed through some wetland areas as planned. Key mitigation during construction in wetland areas includes using equipment working on mats to construct the containment berms/barriers and restriction of vegetation removal only to that area necessary for pipe installations.

At KP 334, the Indigenous Monitors inspected signage and boundaries and confirmed frozen ground conditions. There were no deficiencies identified in this area.



Watercourse staking and signage near Hinton.

Bridge Installation

Bridges are installed over watercourse crossings and wetlands west of Edson at KP 235. There are several mitigation measures the Indigenous Monitors observed during bridge installation. These key activities are related to erosion and sediment control and include undertaking all construction activities that avoid or minimize erosion and the discharge of sediment or other substances into any nearby watercourses, wetlands, lakes or connecting draining systems.

The Indigenous Monitors also monitored proper signage and flagging of the area. There were no deficiencies identified in this area.



Bridge construction at Bench Creek, KP 235, west of Edson.

Hydrovac Excavations

Hydrovac excavations are taking place at areas along the right-of-way. Hydrovac excavations are used in sensitive areas where there is potential for underground utility damage. High pressure water and a vacuum are used to safely excavate sensitive areas.

At KP 286, the Indigenous Monitors inspected the hydrovac activity and noted proper bio-security measures, safety protocols and good housekeeping. No issues were identified.



Hydrovac excavation west of Edson.

Topsoil Stripping and Grading

At KP 276, topsoil stripping and grading activities are taking place. When removing topsoil, there are many required mitigations including the inspection of topsoil pile(s) to ensure they are within the survey limits of the right-of-way and no soil has gone outside these limits.

Appropriate construction equipment must also be used during topsoil stripping when frozen ground conditions are encountered.

The Indigenous Monitors have been involved in monitoring and inspecting such topsoil stripping mitigations. They also inspect the cleared area to investigate any potential chance finds that could be unearthed. No issues or chance finds were identified.



Grading activities west of Edson.

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	6	1	2	0	9
Fulfilled	6	1	2	-	7
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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](https://www.youtube.com/transmtn)



PO Box 81018

Burnaby, BC V5H 3B0

