

## INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

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**Month: November 2020**

**Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 25**

**Project Region: Yellowhead (Spread 2)**

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:  
139–325**

### **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 right-of-way clearing, soil stripping, bridge construction and plant identification. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for November 2020, which reports environmental events and deficiencies in Tables 4 and 5 respectively, is found [here](#).

**For more information: email [info@transmountain.com](mailto: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](https://transmountain.com/covid19)**

### Right-of-Way Clearing

Right-of-way clearing is a key early construction activity involving the removal of trees and vegetation in areas along the pipeline. After clearing, the topsoil is stripped, salvaged, and stored along the edge of the right-of-way for use during reclamation.

The Indigenous Monitors on Spread 2 inspected clearing activities near the Town of Hinton at KP 320. During right-of-way clearing, the Indigenous Monitors were involved in monitoring the salvage and removal of the merchantable timber as per Trans Mountain's Timber Salvage Plan.



Clearing activities near Hinton AB at KP 320.

### Bridge Construction

A bridge was installed over the Little Brule watercourse crossing and associated wetland at KP172. Several mitigation measures were put in place during bridge installation. The Indigenous Monitor observed erosion controls put in place including silt fencing and straw wattles. The Indigenous Monitors also monitored proper signage and flagging of the area.



Little Brule bridge installation at KP 172.

### Environmental Sensitive Feature Site

Environmental features such as rare plants and rare ecological communities, wildlife species of concern, archeological features, Traditional Land Use (TLU) sites and any other sensitive environmental or cultural features that occur on or adjacent to the construction footprint are staked, flagged and sometimes fenced prior to commencing construction. The features are clearly marked so they can be protected during construction.

The Indigenous Monitors inspected environmentally sensitive areas and TLU sites to ensure the flagging/staking remains in place and that appropriate mitigations are being followed, such as clearly marking all identified areas and buffer zones are the correct distances. TLU sites were inspected with the help of community Elders to provide insight on the types of medicinal plants in the area, the cultural significance of pre-identified TLU sites and to discuss the overall mitigations the Indigenous Monitors and Project follow.



Plant gathering site, plants identified.

### Topsoil Removal

When removing topsoil in construction areas, required mitigation includes: segregation of topsoil from root zone material, proper storage to reduce potential erosion, effective labelling and signage and inspection of topsoil piles to ensure they are within the survey limits of the right-of-way and no soil has gone outside these limits. Wildlife have shown to be using soil breaks put in place to allow for travel across the right-of-way.

The Indigenous Monitors were involved in monitoring and inspecting such topsoil salvage mitigations. The Indigenous Monitors also investigated the construction areas before and after topsoil stripping to identify any potential archeological chance finds. No archeological chance finds were identified.



Topsoil removal near KP 205.



Wildlife using soil breaks near KP 173.



## 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	Number and Type of Requests				
	Project Reports/Documents	Environmental Resource Specialists	Elder/Cultural Knowledge Holder	Other	Total
Total	3	1	3	0	7
Fulfilled	3	1	3	-	7
Outstanding	0	0	0	-	0

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

### CONTACT US:

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