

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: February 2021

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 12

**Project Region: Coquihalla Hope
Spread 5B**

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
KP 1053–1075**

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 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 Coquihalla Hope 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 Coquihalla Hope Region involving Indigenous Monitors took place from KP 1053 to 1075 in Spread 5B and included monitoring sediment control measures, active clearing areas, clearing stations and culturally modified tree assessments.

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: 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

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 during clearing to ensure sediment control measures are in place.

At KP 1072, the Indigenous Monitors observed workers maintaining sediment fencing that was installed. Proper installation of sediment fencing was recommended and implemented immediately by the contractor. The Indigenous Monitors identified signage and flagging and noted proper biosecurity measures being followed. There were no concerns identified.



Sediment fence installed to prevent sediment-laden runoff.

Safety Protocols for Active Clearing Areas

Right-of-way clearing is a key part of construction activity and involves the removal of trees and woody vegetation in areas along the transmission line. During this process, the surveyed Project right-of-way is cleared by removing the trees and brush.

At KP 1072, Indigenous Monitors observed safety protocols for blocking access during hand-falling activities. They noted signage, flagging and a spotter present to ensure personnel do not enter the area during active clearing.



Active falling spotter posted at KP 1072.

Cleaning Stations

Biosecurity measures are designed to reduce the introduction or spread of noxious weeds and soil pathogens or other crop diseases from construction activities. Biosecurity mitigations include cleaning stations to manage the risks associated with invasive, noxious and prohibited noxious weeds. Cleaning stations are properly flagged and include signage. Some cleaning stations may include a wash station where a disinfectant composed of a bleach solution is used to disinfect equipment, tools and footwear.

At KP 1053, Indigenous Monitors noted appropriate signage, equipment cleaning material, properly built cleaning stations, and good housekeeping. Utility crew members were observed brushing off boots and UTV tires before entering right-of-way.



Level 1 cleaning station near Hunter Creek.

Culturally Modified Trees (CMT)

Heritage Resource and Cultural Sites Resource-Specific Mitigation Tables and Environmental Alignment Sheets are used to locate and summarize specified mitigation for previously identified historical resources and traditional use areas. Such locations have been identified via traditional use studies conducted by Indigenous groups and archeology baseline assessments that have been conducted in relation to the Project for more than seven years.

In the event a site or location is noted that may be a previously unidentified traditional use area, the Traditional Land Use (TLU) Site Discovery Contingency Plan is followed.

The Indigenous Monitor participated in the implementation of the TLU Site Discovery Contingency Plan in areas where trees were identified that were thought to be potentially culturally modified.

An Environmental Inspector contacted the Indigenous Monitor to assist with a CMT assessment for trees found during a bird sweep. Measurements were recorded to determine the diameter breast height (DBH).

There were no visible tool marks and the bark was still attached to the trees; the core had evidence of fire damage and was hollowed. It was determined by the resource specialist and Indigenous Monitor that the trees were not culturally modified.



Trees assessed for culturally modified evidence.

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: 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	8	0	2	0	8
Fulfilled	8	-	2	-	8
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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