

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: July 2021

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 24

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

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
KP 990–1075**

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 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 990 to 1075 in Spread 5B and included monitoring temporary construction lands, Traditional Land Use (TLU) mitigations, soil stripping, bridge installation and log hauling activities. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for July 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

Soil Stripping

When stripping soil in construction areas, required mitigation includes segregation of topsoil from rootzone material, proper storage and covering 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.

The Indigenous Monitors were involved in monitoring and inspecting such topsoil stripping mitigations. The Indigenous Monitors also investigated the construction areas before and after topsoil was stripped to identify any potential archaeological chance finds. No deficiencies or chance finds were identified during the inspection.



Soil stripping activities monitored near KP 990.

Temporary Construction Lands

Temporary construction lands and infrastructure are defined for the Project as preparatory works to support Project construction and include temporary camps, stockpile sites, equipment staging areas and borrow pits, as well as works on access roads within the first 10 km of each designated construction spread. Many of the sites addressed in the Temporary Construction Lands and Infrastructure Environmental Protection Plan are on previously developed lands.

Indigenous Monitors participated in joint inspection with the Environmental Inspector at the Popkum yard. Key aspects of the inspections included housekeeping and waste management, with corrective actions noted including proper waste disposal and using drip trays. Fire extinguishers were mounted to equipment when required. Spill kits and spill response procedures were reviewed at both sites with no concerns identified.



Popkum yard and office site inspection.



Proper disposal of propane tanks at the Popkum yard.

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 Traditional Land Use 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-3108, STOLO-49, STOLO-73 and STOLO-220. Mitigation measures in place included signage, flagging and documentation of any current use.



Monitoring previously identified TLU sites along the right-of-way near KP 995.

Bridge Installation

Bridge installation activities are ongoing near KP995.

The Indigenous Monitors conducted walk-throughs of the area to check for any potential culturally significant items; no culturally significant items were identified.

The Indigenous Monitors reviewed TMEP's bridge cleaning process, bridge installation drawings and foot traffic protocols and observed the use of filter cloth and rig mats for bridge protection. It was noted that all appropriate signage was in place per the Environmental Protection Plan.

The IM will conduct followup monitoring under the bridge during heavy rainfall. No deficiencies were identified in the area.



Bridge installation near KP 995.

Log Hauling

Log hauling activities continued near Falls Lake Creek throughout July. Trans Mountain has a Timber Salvage Plan outlining practices around management and handling of trees cleared along the Project right-of-way. Trans Mountain is working with Indigenous communities that have identified timber salvage interests.

The Indigenous Monitors conducted inspections to confirm the haul trucks are washed thoroughly before entering the site. This reduces the introduction and spread of noxious weeds and soil pathogens.

Indigenous Monitors work with the loader on-site to monitor log integrity. This prevents waste of merchantable timber.

In warm weather conditions, topsoil tracking is a high priority. Rutting, admixing and compaction is closely monitored while the haul trucks are on-site.



Log hauling and mulching activities near KP 994.

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	10
Fulfilled	8	-	2	-	10
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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