

# INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

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**Month: March 2020**

**Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 29**

**Project Region: BC Interior**

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored: 0–15  
of the Kingsvale Transmission Line**

## 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 BC Interior 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 BC Interior region involving Indigenous Monitors took place from KP 0 to 15 of the Kingsvale Transmission Line, including monitoring and inspecting wildlife activity, watercourse signage and traditional use sites. While not under the federal Project certificate, construction activity on Kingsvale Transmission Line is in support of the Project and is governed by separate permits/approvals with commitments to Indigenous monitoring.

**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 our 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](https://transmountain.com/covid19)**

### Wildlife Observation

The Indigenous Monitors observed moose during inspection work. During construction activity, mitigation measures are implemented as per the Environmental Protection Plan.

Mitigation measures include creating gaps in soil piles to allow wildlife to safely cross the construction footprint and reporting any observed wildlife activity near construction.



Cow calf pair spotted moving from right-of-way

### Watercourse Features and Signage

Several pre-construction surveys took place that are required prior to the start of construction. This included the identification (based on baseline studies) and marking of any resource-specific locations in the field where mitigation is necessary. During this period, watercourse and wetland features were identified along the Project footprint. The Indigenous Monitor participated in the flagging and placing of signage as per the mitigation measures to delineate (flag) the features.



Signage along construction footprint

### 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.

The Indigenous Monitors inspected traditional land use areas to verify the stakes and boundaries. Ongoing monitoring and inspections will be conducted at such sites as construction continues. In order to protect confidential cultural information, it is important to note the nature of traditional use sites is not shared with the Indigenous Monitors or other team members if the sites have been deemed confidential by the Indigenous group that identified them.



Bear den and black bear identified near site



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. Per the contingency plan, the following measures are implemented at site: the Indigenous Monitor and Environmental Inspector are notified; the site is flagged or fenced off; and the Indigenous Monitor and a TLU Resource Specialist collaborate to assess and develop an appropriate mitigation plan to be implemented on-site.

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. After review by the Indigenous Monitor and consulting with Indigenous community members at the site to further examine the areas, some trees were determined not to be culturally modified and mitigation was identified in consultation with the Indigenous participants to protect key trees during clearing that were identified as culturally modified.



Wildlife trees identified, flagged and monitored

### 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	Number and Type of Requests				
	Project Reports/Documents	Environmental Resource Specialists	Elder/Cultural Knowledge Holder	Other	Total
Total	2	0	0	0	2
Fulfilled	2	-	-	-	2
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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