

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: June 2020

**Project Region: BC Interior
Kingsvale Transmission Line &
Spread 5a (Kamloops Urban Area)**

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 30

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored: 0–23
of the Kingsvale Transmission Line &
KP 838 to 846 Spread 5a**

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 23 of the Kingsvale Transmission Line and in the Kamloops Urban Area in Spread 5a, and included bird sweeps, monitoring and inspecting timber salvage, amphibian habitats and cleanup and reclamation activity. While not under the federal Project certificate, construction activity on the 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 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

Timber Salvage

Trans Mountain has a Timber Salvage Plan outlining practices around management and handling of trees that are cleared along the Kingsvale Transmission Line right-of-way. Any merchantable timber is delivered to mills or if on private land, the landowner is compensated. Trans Mountain is working with Indigenous communities that have identified timber salvage interests. In some areas, communities have identified timber that can be salvaged for teepee poles, ceremonial purposes or firewood.

The Indigenous Monitors have been involved in inspecting the removal of the merchantable timber as per the Timber Salvage Plan.



Timber removal using dozer and winch at Kingsvale Transmission Line. Timber will be removed and placed along the right-of-way to be processed and bucked for transport.

Amphibian Habitat Monitoring

On the Kingsvale Transmission Line, Indigenous Monitors have been actively involved in the inspection of watercourse crossings, wetlands and amphibian sites. During this activity, a Columbia spotted frog habitat was discovered. The site was marked with flagging and signage and sediment fencing was placed to protect the area.

To enhance amphibian protection, the Environmental Inspector and Indigenous Monitor have been working closely with the Construction Contractor on the mitigation plan related to amphibian habitats. Environmental Inspectors and Indigenous Monitors work to minimize potential adverse effects to amphibian habitat/wetlands by expediting construction in and around wetlands, by restoring wetlands to their original configurations and contours, by segregating topsoil during excavation, by permanently stabilizing upland areas near wetlands as soon as possible after backfilling, by inspecting the right-of-way periodically during and after construction, and by repairing any erosion control or restoration features until permanent revegetation is successful.



Columbia spotted frog habitat located on-site at Kingsvale Transmission Line.

Cleanup and Reclamation

Cleanup and reclamation are important steps in returning disturbed sites to a stable condition similar to that prior to the construction activity. Mitigation measures implemented during Kingsvale Transmission Line cleanup and reclamation include cleaning up all associated debris and materials; re-establishing the construction site including watercourse bed and banks to a stable condition; re-establishing positive drainage across the worksite; preventing surface material loss due to soil erosion by wind and water; establishing a vegetative cover compatible with surrounding vegetation and land uses, and deterring the proliferation of weeds, all to maintain equivalent land capability.

The Indigenous Monitors inspected and participated in cleanup and reclamation activities, including monitoring of site housekeeping efforts, inspecting contractors re-contouring soil piles and monitoring re-seeding activity in previously excavated and backfilled areas.



Contractor re-seeding along transmission line.

Bird Sweeps

A requirement of the Project is to create an inventory of wildlife observations and to follow contingency measures for the discovery of wildlife species of concern, including birds. Bird species of concern refers to birds that have increased potential to be affected by Project activities due to spatial or temporal overlap with the Project during sensitive life stages like breeding.

For the wildlife discovery of bird nests on the Project site, mitigation measures include reducing the area of disturbance or construction activity intensity and protecting the nest(s) using fencing and/or flagging as well as visible signage.

On Spread 5a, the Indigenous Monitor observed wildlife sweeps – specifically bird sweeps – with Trans Mountain Resources Specialists, as part of early construction phase activity.



Bird sweep area in Kamloops Urban Area within Spread 5a.

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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