

# INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

**Month: September 2020**

**Indigenous Monitors days on-site: 18**

**Project Region: Jasper to Mount  
Robson Reactivation  
(Hinton to Hargreaves)**

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:  
333–465**

## Indigenous Monitors on Trans Mountain Reactivation Activities – Overview

The Trans Mountain Expansion Project (TMEP) is retaining Indigenous Monitors as integrated members of its construction Environmental Inspection team. Indigenous Monitors work with Environmental Inspectors to monitor compliance with approved mitigation measures to minimize impacts to traditional resource use and cultural/heritage impacts during TMEP construction.

Operations and maintenance work, including integrity digs and sleeve replacements occurring along the deactivated pipeline segments in Jasper National Park and Mount Robson Provincial Park, is not part of TMEP nor subject to TMEP Conditions. However, Trans Mountain will be including Indigenous Monitors during certain operations and maintenance work in reactivation areas, as it relates to preparing for future TMEP construction activities.

This Overview Report provides highlights of the Indigenous Monitors' day-to-day work and key highlights observed by the Monitors in the Jasper to Mount Robson Reactivation region (Hinton to Hargreaves), specifically Jasper National Park and Mount Robson Provincial Park. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Indigenous Monitor activities to Indigenous groups. During this reporting period, key activities in the Jasper to Mount Robson Reactivation region involving Indigenous Monitors included inspection and monitoring activities related to reclamation with cryptogamic crust, monitoring of traditional land use areas and watercourse crossings.

**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)**

## Reclamation – Cryptogamic Crust

Cryptogamic crust is made up of mosses, lichens, algae and bacteria which are important for building soil and promoting plant growth. Careful salvage, storage, and replacement of cryptogamic crust is an important mitigation approach and aspect of reclamation in some Reactivation construction site areas of Jasper National Park.

To salvage the crust, Trans Mountain Resource Specialist crews accessed sites within Jasper National Park identified during Project planning. Hand tools are used to gently remove crust material which is then transferred to a secure storage location until the reclamation phase of the Project.

As part of the Dig 14, 15, 16 and Fittings 1 and 2 reclamation process, a small percentage (10%) of the salvaged cryptogamic crust layer was broken up and mixed with water to create an inoculant slurry application. The slurry was applied on topsoil and/or surface soil layer as near as possible to the geo-referenced location where it was salvaged, then more cryptogamic crust was replaced over it.

The Indigenous Monitors inspected this reclamation activity and assisted the Resource Specialists with the application of the cryptogamic crust slurry application.



Preparing salvaged cryptogamic crust slurry for application.



Cryptogamic crust slurry applied to ground near Dig 16.

## Traditional Land Use Areas

During pre-construction activities, previously identified Traditional Land Use areas are marked with stakes and flagging ribbon by Resource Specialist crews as part of environmental flagging and staking program. Signage is also installed to indicate the area to construction crews.

The Indigenous Monitors performed monitoring and inspection activities to ensure environmental features, including identified Traditional Land Use areas, had been staked, flagged and signed in advance of construction activities and are observed during construction. The Indigenous Monitors also identified additional edible and medicinal plants near the right-of-way in order to protect those areas from construction activity.



Labrador tea and blueberries bushes.

<p>The Indigenous Monitors shared general information about edible and medicinal plants like blueberries, thimble berries, saskatoon berries and soap berries with the members of the construction crew.</p>	
<p><b>Watercourse Crossings</b></p> <p>In various locations in Jasper National Park and Mount Robson Provincial Park, the existing pipeline is located underneath a watercourse. When operations and maintenance activities are required at that location, an isolation methodology is typically used for this work, whereby the crossing site is isolated from the main watercourse to prevent construction materials and sediment from entering the watercourse outside of the isolated area.</p> <p>In September, the Indigenous Monitors observed a range of preparatory construction activities for watercourse crossings in Mount Robson Provincial Park, including Rockingham Creek, Ghitta Creek and the Fraser River. Environmental mitigation measures monitored and inspected include:</p> <p><i>Protective Wood Matting:</i></p> <p>Installation of protective wood matting in watercourse access areas to prevent ground disturbance and assist in the control of erosion and potential for sedimentation of watercourses.</p> <p><i>Equipment Use and Refueling:</i></p> <p>Refueling safe practices are required when working near watercourse crossings and may include the use of automatic shut-off nozzles, requiring a crew of two to refuel equipment and placing equipment in secondary containment where applicable. Equipment must be refueled a minimum of 100 m from any water body unless otherwise approved by the Environmental Inspection team and proper signage must be in place.</p> <p><i>Spill Prevention &amp; Cleanup Considerations:</i></p> <p>Equipment and vehicles on-site will be equipped with spill kits. 50-gallon barrel type or larger oil only spill kits will be adjacent to the watercourse crossing in addition to the spill kits carried in equipment and vehicles working on-site as per TMEP's Spill Contingency Plan.</p>	 <p>Fraser River crossing.</p>  <p>Protective wood matting installed at the access to Rockingham Creek watercourse crossing</p>

## 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	1	-	-	-	1
Fulfilled	-	-	-	-	-
Outstanding	1	-	-	-	1

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

**CONTACT US:**  
Trans Mountain

✉ [info@transmountain.com](mailto:info@transmountain.com)  
☎ 1.866.514.6700  
🌐 [transmountain.com](http://transmountain.com)


 @TransMtn
  [youtube.com/transmtn](https://www.youtube.com/transmtn)


 PO Box 81018  
Burnaby, BC V5H 3B0

