

# INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

**Month: July 2020**

**Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 22**

**Project Region: North Thompson  
(Spread 3/4a and Spread 4b)**

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) 504–678 &  
715–763**

## **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 North Thompson 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 North Thompson region involving Indigenous Monitors included monitoring and inspecting environmental feature buffers, traditional land use areas, erosion and sediment controls, and topsoil stripping and storage, and watercourse crossing instream work.

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

### Inspection of Environmental Features

The Indigenous Monitors conducted inspections in areas of known environmental features to check on flagging/marking and to verify buffer zones are in place and the correct distances.

As part of pre-construction activity, environmental features such as wildlife areas, rare plants and rare ecological communities, archeological features, wetlands, riparian zones, watercourses, Traditional Land Use (TLU) sites and any other sensitive environmental features are staked, flagged and sometimes fenced by Resource Specialist teams. The features are clearly marked so they can be appropriately protected during construction.



Flagging buffer for riparian zone.

### Traditional Land Use Site Monitoring

Traditional Land Use areas have been identified through information and studies provided by Indigenous groups over multiple years of Project assessment and planning. During pre-construction survey activities, previously identified Traditional Land Use areas are marked with flagging ribbon by Resource Specialist crews during the environmental flagging and staking program. Signage is also installed to indicate to construction crews where areas are not to be entered.

The Indigenous Monitors performed monitoring and inspection activities to ensure environmental features, including identified Traditional Land Use areas, have been staked, flagged and signed in advance of construction activities and confirmed mitigation approaches for Traditional Use Sites where required.



Previously identified TLU site

### Erosion and Sediment Control – Silt Fencing

Site-specific erosion and sediment control measures are implemented to prevent sediment-laden runoff from entering watercourses.

The Indigenous Monitors worked with the Environmental Inspectors and the construction crews to ensure silt fencing (a temporary sediment control device used on construction sites to protect water quality in nearby streams from sediment in stormwater runoff) is installed and functioning.



Silt fence set up for sediment control.

### Topsoil Stripping and Storage

When stripping topsoil in construction areas, required mitigations include segregation of topsoil from root zone 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 topsoil stripping mitigations. The Indigenous Monitors also walk in transects along the cleared area to investigate any potential chance finds that could be unearthed.



Watercourse topsoil signage.

### Watercourse Crossing Isolated Instream Construction

There are various locations where the pipeline will be placed underneath watercourse crossings using an isolation methodology where water is temporarily diverted around the construction area. Mitigation measures required for instream construction include, but are not limited to: biosecurity cleaning, topsoil/subsoil salvage, fish capture and relocation, sediment and erosion control, dewatering, water flow management, water quality monitoring and reclamation activities. The Indigenous Monitors monitored construction activities related to instream work at multiple locations.



Upstream diversion pumps used in conjunction with an Aqua Dam isolation to successfully divert and maintain watercourse flow

## 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	0	0	0	0	0
Fulfilled	-	-	-	-	-
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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