

# INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

**Month: October 2020**

**Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 24**

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

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) 489–678 &  
697–763**

## 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 erosion and sediment controls, traditional land use areas, watercourse crossings, and access road and right-of-way clearing. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for October 2020, which reports environmental events and deficiencies in Tables 4 and 5 respectively, is found [here](#).

**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)**

### Erosion and Sediment Control

Site-specific erosion and sediment control (ESC) measures are implemented to prevent sediment-laden runoff from leaving the right-of-way or from entering watercourses and wetlands during construction activities along the spreads.

The Indigenous Monitors on Spreads 3/4a and 4b worked with the Environmental Inspectors and the construction crews to monitor and inspect various types of erosion and sediment control mitigation measures. One measure is ensuring that 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. Another ESC measure monitored on Spread 4b included the application of hydroseed (a mixture of wood fibre, tackifier and seed as a cover crop) for wind and water erosion prone soils piled along the right-of-way.



Silt fencing on access road Shoefly 2.



Hydroseeding of topsoil near access road Shoefly 23.

### 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 activities, previously identified Traditional Land Use (TLU) areas are marked with flagging ribbon by Resource Specialist crews during the environmental flagging and staking program. Signage is also installed to indicate the areas to construction crews.

The Indigenous Monitors performed pre-construction walkthroughs with the general contractor and environmental inspectors ensuring environmental features, including previously identified TLU sites have been staked, flagged and signed in advance of construction activities. Indigenous Monitors also confirmed mitigation approaches for TLU sites where required.

During pre-construction walkthroughs of Spread 3/4a, the Indigenous Monitors identified TLU sites



Previously identified TLU site stake and ribbon.

### Traditional Land Use Site Monitoring (cont'd)

that had not been previously recorded. Indigenous Monitors worked with the Environmental Inspectors and General Construction Contractor to confirm mitigation approaches for these newly discovered sites as per the Traditional Land Use Sites Discovery Contingency Plan.

### Watercourse Crossing Isolated Instream Construction

In October, the Indigenous Monitors on Spread 4b monitored and inspected Environmental Mitigation measures for construction of the Peavine Creek and Thuya Creek watercourse crossings; both crossings have an October 31 Least Risk Biological Window by which all instream works are to be completed. In these areas the pipeline is placed underneath the watercourse crossing using an isolated trenched crossing methodology where water is temporarily diverted around the construction area.

Mitigation measures required for instream construction include but are not limited to: biosecurity cleaning of equipment, topsoil/subsoil salvage, fish salvage and relocation, sediment and erosion control, dewatering, water flow management, water quality monitoring for turbidity and reclamation activities.

At the Peavine watercourse crossing, the Indigenous Monitors also inspected that the generators used to power the grey water and upstream water diversion pumps had drip trays underneath and that the pumps were working effectively.



Trans Mountain Resource Specialist conducting fish salvage at Peavine Creek.



Trans Mountain Resource Specialist conducting turbidity testing at Thuya Creek.

### Clearing

Access road and right-of-way clearing is a key part of construction activity and involves the removal of trees and woody vegetation within the Project footprint. Prior to clearing the Indigenous Monitors participated in pre-construction walkthroughs with the GCC and EI team to ensure environmental and TLU features are flagged and the mitigation understood by the crew.

The Indigenous Monitors on Spread 4b performed inspection and monitoring of clearing activities along the right-of-way and access roads. This included pre-clearing walkthroughs with both TMEP and SAEG personnel to identify features prior to clearing, monitoring signage and flagging of sensitive areas and monitoring timber salvage.



Clearing Cedar tree slash from upper creek bank on west slope of Peavine Creek.

### 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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