

INDIGENOUS MONITOR OVERVIEW REPORT

Month: August 2022

**Project Region: Jasper to Mount
Robson Reactivation**

Indigenous Monitor days on-site: 24

**Kilometre Posts (KPs) monitored:
KP 322–461**

Indigenous Monitors on the Trans Mountain Expansion Project – Overview

The Trans Mountain Expansion Project (the Project or TMEP) is retaining 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 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 include 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 mitigation measures observed by the Monitors related to construction in the Jasper to Mount Robson Reactivation 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 Jasper to Mount Robson Reactivation Region involving Indigenous Monitors took place from KP 317–461 and included wildlife mitigation monitoring, danger tree assessment, erosion and sediment control (ESC), surface water pump-off and reclamation, site-specific planting, soil salvage and construction site housekeeping. The Project Construction Progress Report (Condition 106) for August 2022, which reports environmental events and deficiencies in Tables 4 and 5 respectively, is found [here](#).

The Project has a process for sharing information related to potential Traditional Land Use (TLU) and Heritage Resource chance finds during construction. The [Protecting TLU and Cultural Heritage Resources Fact Sheet \(link here\)](#) provides an overview of the chance find communication process. Applicable Indigenous groups are notified and engaged directly on potential chance finds.

For more information: email info@transmountain.com or call 1.866.514.6700.

Danger Tree Assessments

Trees that create a hazard to the public, workers, or the safe operation of facilities due to their proximity to the construction site, roads, trails or structures are deemed danger trees. Danger trees on the edge of the Project footprint are assessed by a Danger Tree Assessor so every reasonable effort can be made to retain (and if necessary, modify to remove dangerous portions) suitable nest trees as an alternative to complete removal.

Danger trees are not removed from locations greater than one tree length from the construction site (Project footprint), trails, electrical conductors or structures.

Danger tree assessments were conducted near KP 458 and the Indigenous Monitors participated to ensure no potential Culturally Modified Trees (CMTs) or TLU sites were present. No potential CMT or TLU chance finds were identified.



Danger tree assessment KP 458.

Erosion and Sediment Control

Erosion and sediment control measures (ESC) are monitored and inspected in Jasper National Park to ensure they are functioning as intended to mitigate erosion and sediment transport from construction sites to downstream areas, including watercourses. On-site ESC mitigations include sediment fences, swales, wattles, straw, polyethylene sheeting, coco matting and hydroseeding, as well as water drainage control measures, including coarse woody debris (CWD).

An Indigenous Monitor performed an inspection on the ESC measures in place near KP 360. Rock and CWD were placed across a slope to reduce runoff velocity and retain sediment. Vegetation is becoming re-established and will act as another ESC measure. No issues or environmental concerns were identified during the inspection.



Restoration maturing Snaring Side Chanel West at KP 360.



Restoration maturing Snaring Side Chanel West at KP 360.

Pump-Off

To keep trench excavation areas dewatered and stable during pipeline construction activity, water that accumulates from precipitation or groundwater seepage is pumped off and relocated to an approved location either on or off the construction footprint. At KP 339, water accumulating in the excavated pipeline trench was pumped off to a sediment bag. Water flowing out of the filtration system was discharged upland to a well-vegetated area.

The Indigenous Monitors confirmed that pump-off water was released a minimum of 50 m from the nearest watercourse, replacement materials were readily available, including sediment control devices, pumps, spills kits and secondary containment, and housekeeping of off-construction footprint locations. No deficiencies were identified during the inspection.



Pump-off location near KP 339.



Trench dewatering location at KP 339.

Soil Salvage

When removing topsoil in construction areas, required mitigation includes segregation of topsoil from root zone material, proper storage 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. Wildlife has been shown to be using soil breaks to allow for travel across the right-of-way.

The Indigenous Monitors were involved in monitoring and inspecting such topsoil salvage mitigations near KP 390 and KP 343. The Indigenous Monitors also inspected the construction areas before and after topsoil stripping to identify any potential archaeological chance finds. No potential archaeological chance finds were identified



Miette Valve KP 390.



Jasper Lake Valve KP 343.

Reclamation – Site-Specific Planting

Reclamation is an important step in returning disturbed sites on Reactivation to a stable condition similar to the site's condition prior to the construction activity. Establishing a vegetative cover compatible with surrounding vegetation to maintain equivalent land capability after construction and deterring the proliferation of weeds are some of the environmental mitigation measures outlined in the Reactivation site-specific planting plans.

To establish a temporary vegetative cover to limit erosion of backfilled dig sites while permanent reclamation activities are completed, a seed mixture is applied as prescribed in the environmental alignment sheets. Site-specific seed mixes were developed by Jasper National Park for reclamation use within the worksite construction footprint. Seed mix composition takes into consideration site conditions, including climate and soil properties. A native seed mix suitable for moist sites will be applied to protect reclaimed land from erosion and to assist in suppressing weeds, while native plant cover is re-established. General Sites mix will be used for upland areas and Moist Sites mix will be used for lowland areas and on watercourse terrace or floodplain areas.

Indigenous Monitors observed and continue to monitor regrowth of planted sites in reclaimed areas. No concerns were identified during inspection activities.



Regrowth at KP 325.



Regrowth at KP 369.



Regrowth at KP 369.

Site Housekeeping

Indigenous Monitors regularly conduct inspections of construction areas for general housekeeping measures. This includes observing and documenting waste storage management, fuel storage containment, and proper use of vehicle and equipment spill kits. Waste or construction materials not properly disposed of or secured are reported to the Environmental Inspectors and respective site services crew for maintenance. The recycling bins are also inspected to make sure waste is properly segregated into appropriate categories.

At the Grant Brook Valve, Indigenous Monitors confirmed signage is up to date, required flagging and staking is present, housekeeping is compliant, secondary containment is in use, washrooms are clean and appropriately maintained, spill kits inspected for volume and types of spill response material and to ensure the appropriate placement in relation to work fronts. No deficiencies were identified during inspection.



Housekeeping observed at Grant Brook Valve KP 428.



Secondary containment in use Grant brook Valve at KP 428.



Good housekeeping Grant Brook Valve at KP 428.

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 requests for Project reports, input from an environmental resource specialist and on-site support from an Elder or other cultural knowledge holder. Requests and their completion status are noted below.

Status	Rolling Total and Type of Requests				
	Project Reports/Documents	Environmental Resource Specialists	Elder/Cultural Knowledge Holder	Other	Total
Total	0	0	1	0	1
Fulfilled	0	-	1	-	1
Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-

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

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