Restoration – A Green Legacy

Construction of the Trans Mountain Pipeline Anchor Loop Project was completed ahead of schedule in October 2008, increasing the capacity of the pipeline to 300,000 barrels per day. With the line now in service, attention has turned to continuing the pipeline right-of-way (ROW) restoration program, with a focus on the Mt. Robson section. During 2009, several major restoration activities are scheduled in addition to ongoing monitoring work to ensure that a positive legacy is left behind in both Jasper National Park and Mt. Robson Provincial Park.

**Seeding**

Most of the pipeline ROW has been seeded except a six-kilometre section near Hargreaves, BC, which will be completed in 2009. Dozens of different native seed species, including Rocky Mountain fescue and hairy wild rye, have been applied to reclamation areas along the ROW. Most seeding is done through boom-seeding, a method in which the seed is spread out by tractor-pulled equipment. For the hard to reach areas, such as slopes and steep banks, hydroseeding is used. In the small inaccessible areas, such as river and stream banks, broadcast seeding is done by hand. In BC, a large portion of seeding was completed by air.

**Planting**

Along the Alberta section, a local restoration crew has planted nearly 100,000 plants of indigenous species. These include a wide variety of deciduous and coniferous plants, forbs and grasses. The vegetation planted on the ROW is watered to ensure that the plants remain healthy and well hydrated. In 2009, approximately 70,000 additional plants will be planted and tended to through the BC section of the project.

**Weed Treatments**

A weed management strategy has been implemented to eliminate weeds and non-native plant species. The treatment will continue through activities including spraying, mowing and hand pulling.

“The TMX - Anchor Loop Project is viewed by many as a legacy project, and has achieved a level of success that has exceeded expectations in most areas.”

Greg Toth, Project Director, TMX - Anchor Loop
Kinder Morgan Canada (KMC) is committed to enhancing ecological and commemorative integrity in Jasper National Park through the Net Gains Program. Work is underway at a number of sites within the Park and will continue throughout 2009. KMC will also remove a number of roadway culverts that present barriers to the passage of fish. Single-span bridges will replace these culverts to improve the connectivity and habitat accessibility between upstream and downstream sections.

In Mt. Robson Provincial Park, similar enhancements will be completed within the scope of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) Compensation Program.

Net Gains and DFO Compensation

Monitoring for Success

KMC has committed to ongoing monitoring to ensure follow through on its environmental commitments.

Post-Construction Monitoring Program

To verify implementation of all enhancement measures as part of regulatory filings, post-construction monitoring is required for at least five years. This includes evaluation of reclamation success, vegetation establishment, erosion control and weed growth.

Monitoring of DFO Compensation Projects

To document the effectiveness of the mitigation and site rehabilitation, and identify any areas that require remedial action, yearly post-construction monitoring will occur after spring high flows for four years. In addition, all habitat compensation programs will be monitored following high flows in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2013 to evaluate their effectiveness and the success of revegetation recovery.

Monitoring to Ensure Compliance with Parks Canada’s Management Objectives and Desired End Results

Parks Canada has formalized its expectations by establishing Management Objectives and Desired End Results, which determine the end point of KMC’s responsibility. The achievement of these objectives will be monitored and incorporated with the Post-Construction Monitoring Program and may extend to 10 years.

Follow-up Monitoring

Follow-up monitoring differs from post-construction monitoring through the identification of specific focus areas for detailed monitoring. Follow-up monitoring is required for:

» Wetland function
» Restoration of calcareous (calcium) soils
» Prevention of the spread of forest pathogens (bacteria)
» Visual aesthetics

Follow-up monitoring will be included in annual post-construction monitoring reports.

Did you know?

Over 1,000 portable fence panels were placed parallel to the streams, and stucco wire was run across the streams to protect new plants from browsing deer and elk.

Did you know?

Visual barriers have been set up at strategic points along the ROW. These barriers are comprised of a large stack of logs, which makes it more difficult for predators such as wolves to see their prey along the exposed ROW.
Trans Mountain Legacy Fund Update

Another positive outcome of the Anchor Loop Project consultation process is KMC’s commitment to complete a project that will result in a net ecological benefit to Jasper National Park and Mt. Robson Provincial Park. This program, formerly known as the Anchor Loop Net Benefit Program, is designed to be over and above mitigation and special measures needed for regulatory approval, and is now known as the Trans Mountain Legacy Fund.

Since 2005, the outcome of work by a Net Benefit Advisory Committee includes the determination that the fund would be divided into three separate components:

- A contribution to Mt. Robson Provincial Park to support net benefit initiatives they identified.
- A contribution to Jasper National Park to support net benefit initiatives they identified.
- A donation of $2.2 million for Ecological Improvement Projects to be identified through consensus.

The committee includes representation from environmental, Parks, and Aboriginal groups, with KMC as an observer to the process. Both Parks’ contributions have been completed; identification of the Ecological Improvement Projects is still in progress.

Recognizing Excellence

The successful completion of the Anchor Loop Project is the culmination of years of planning and execution of a very complex and highly scrutinized pipeline project. Extremely rugged terrain, stringent environmental requirements and intense regulatory scrutiny were all challenges that were met with excellence.

The success of this project is attributed to the contributions of many—a strong collaborative effort and teamwork between KMC’s project team, consultants, contractors, the regulatory community, Aboriginal Peoples and stakeholders.

Throughout the project, there have been many outstanding efforts. One that has recently been recognized is Chinook Cove Contracting Ltd., which was nominated by KMC and subsequently received an Outstanding Business Achievement Award in the Business of the Year (10+ employees) category at the inaugural BC Aboriginal Business Awards. Chinook Cove Contracting is a First Nations owned forestry business consisting of timber harvesting and silviculture operations employing between nine and 22 staff, many of whom are of Aboriginal heritage.

Over the last two years, Chinook Cove has expanded into ROW clearing on major projects with KMC, ATCO Utilities and Canadian Hydro Developers. KMC nominated Chinook Cove ‘for environmental and safety performance of the highest standard.’ Chinook Cove’s ultimate success on the project is a direct reflection of the professionalism and strong attention to detail that Don Matthew, president, provides in the contracting of services by his organization.
“We have reason to travel Yellowhead Highway quite frequently for farm business and to visit relatives and friends…we would like to express how pleased we are with the finished right-of-way areas. Much care has been taken to preserve and restore the land to its original state! We particularly like the effort put forth in creating berms, using rocks to strengthen and shore up the banks, while still allowing rivulets and creeks to naturally cascade down over the rockload…what an amazing feat! And equally important, what an incredible and beautiful reclamation of the lands! Congratulations on a stellar job!”

Jean and Walter Lutz
Coquitlam, BC

Did you know?

Seeding Windy Point, east of Jasper National Park, proved to be a challenge. Since there is very little topsoil and the area is buffeted by strong winds, the seeds are unable to stick to the ground and grow. To address this, a helicopter was used to seed the four-hectare area (9.88 acres) by broadcast spraying a mixture of seed, fertilizer, mulch, water and a special tackifier that helps the mixture stick to the ground.
February 27, 2009

Dear Neighbour,

Our Sincere Thanks

On October 30, 2008, Kinder Morgan Canada Inc. (KMC) achieved a significant milestone with the tie-in of the Mt. Robson Spread and start-up of the completed TMX - Anchor Loop Pipeline Project. The project was the culmination of a significant amount of effort by KMC, the consultants and contractors employed on the project.

The TMX - Anchor Loop Project is arguably one of the most challenging pipeline projects to be constructed. Factors include the stringent environmental requirements to work in the UNESCO designated Rocky Mountain Parks World Heritage Site, challenging mountainous terrain, close proximity to pre-existing infrastructure and utilities, and construction through the Municipality of Jasper. Adding to the complexity, the project was overseen by multiple regulatory jurisdictions, and was highly visible to the public along Highway 16 and through the Municipality of Jasper.

Successful completion of the project is a testament to the strong collaboration between the KMC project team, consultants, contractors, regulatory community, Aboriginal communities and stakeholders. The TMX - Anchor Loop Project is viewed by many as a legacy project, and has achieved a level of success that has exceeded expectations in most areas.

On behalf of Kinder Morgan Canada and the TMX - Anchor Loop Project team, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the many companies, organizations, and individuals who contributed to the overall success of the project. I would also like to thank the communities of Jasper and Valemount for their generous hospitality, as well as the public for their patience during project construction.

Sincerely,

Greg Toth, P. Eng.
Project Director, TMX