



Updated Press Release, September 24, 2021

Another Arrest at TMX Work Site Today

Unceded kʷikwə́ləm Territory (BURNABY, BC) – Two land defenders breached the blue fencing in the expanding clearcut west of Lost Creek this morning. Work was stopped for a few hours through the hardblock tactic used. One arrest was made. Numerous witnesses and supporters stood by, including a bagpipe piper.

Work was stopped for several hours this morning as two individuals initiated hardblock tactics to stop tree cutting in the Brunette River Conservation Area. [See video](#). One person locked themselves into the ground and the other person sat with them as ground support. This tactic is one of several used at [Fairy Creek, where blockades have been trying to save old growth forest on southern Vancouver Island](#).

Zain Haq (20) who was arrested, said, “The future of life on this planet is at stake. We must put a moratorium on all new fossil fuel infrastructure, as stated in no uncertain terms by the conservative [International Energy Agency](#). This twinned pipeline poses tremendous risk locally, and globally once the product is burned. The consequences of inaction are catastrophic. As a young person, I am motivated to do whatever I can to dampen the horrors of the not-so-distant future: mass starvation, breakdown of ecosystems, mass extinction, etc. I never wanted to be a soldier, but here we are in what [Extinction Rebellion calls the third world war, of profit versus life](#).

After those individuals were removed from the site, tree sitters did what they could to deter tree cutters from approaching their strongholds in the canopy. [See video](#).

[Images and videos at this link](#).

For more information:

Web: <https://stopTMX.ca>

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/StopTMX>

Twitter: @PPSTMX1

Instagram, TikTok, YouTube: "Stop TMX"

BACKGROUND

The \$20 billion pipeline project was purchased from Texas oil giant Kinder Morgan by the federal government in 2018. Costs on the pipeline have ballooned since the purchase. The project is opposed by the Squamish Nation, Tsleil-Waututh Nation and Coldwater Indian Band, who were denied leave to appeal by the Supreme Court of Canada. It also conflicts with Canada's commitment under the Paris Climate Agreement to keep global temperatures from rising above 1.5 degree Celsius. The project would impact numerous drinking water sources along the route, Burrard Inlet and Tsleil-Waututh, Qayqayt and other First Nations, Burnaby Mountain and Simon Fraser University. It would also spell a 7-fold increase in tanker traffic in the Burrard inlet and an increased threat to the endangered Southern Resident Orcas. The Province of British Columbia, the State of Washington, and 20 municipalities oppose the pipeline project, including the Cities of New Westminster and Burnaby.

The existing Trans Mountain pipeline is already a major environmental and public health hazard with a [long history of disastrous spills](#). In June 2020, 50,000 gallons of crude oil [spilled](#) from a pump station located above an aquifer that supplies the Sumas First Nation with drinking water. The thirteen 67-year old tanks at the terminus of the pipeline are too close together to put out in the event of a fire, according to the Burnaby Fire Department. 240,000 people live within the 4.2 km radius of the site that is considered an evacuation zone including 32,000 members of the SFU community.

A [growing number](#) of insurers have pulled out of the pipeline project; those still involved [are facing pressure to divest](#). In November 2020, the Canada Energy Regulator [released a report](#) stating that there is no need for any pipeline expansion if Canada takes measures to curb GHGs. In Sept 2020, [economists warned](#) notes that the TMX project was no longer financially viable. Indigenous groups, as well as the final report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls have pointed out the connection between resource extraction man-camps and [violence against Indigenous women](#).

The coalition of environmental groups opposing the TMX pipeline includes, but is not limited to, Protect the Planet Stop TMX (PPST), Mountain Protectors, Protect the Inlet, Extinction Rebellion Vancouver, STAND.earth, Burnaby Residents Opposing Kinder Morgan Expansion (BROKE), Climate Convergence, Dogwood, Colony Farms Regional Park, and Wilderness Committee.