



THE TULALIP FOUNDATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 18, 2024

The Tulalip Foundation Secures Conservation Futures Grant for Allen Creek Restoration

Tulalip, WA– The Tulalip Foundation is proud to announce the acquisition of a significant stretch of land along Allen Creek, marking a pivotal step in the conservation and future restoration of this vital ecosystem. This project, a collaborative effort between the Tulalip Foundation, the Tulalip Tribes, private landowners, and Snohomish County, underscores our commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable land management.

Allen Creek located in Marysville is upstream from the Qwuloolt Project, a large tidal wetland restoration project completed by the Tulalip Tribes in 2015. This project intends to build upon the successes of the Qwuloolt project to protect and eventually restore critical Coho salmon rearing habitat in Allen Creek and other habitat restoration and channel improvements installed by the Tulalip Tribes and Snohomish County just upstream of the property. Allen Creek is a major Coho salmon-producing stream, and Kellogg Marsh has historically been an important area for holding adult salmon heading upstream to spawn and for rearing juvenile Coho prior to their exit into saltwater. Kellogg Marsh Valley is also culturally significant to the Tulalip Tribes as a significant former fishing and gathering area.

This project will protect 37 acres of vital salmon habitat in perpetuity and facilitate future restoration, including channel realignment, fish passage barrier culvert removal, floodplain/wetland connectivity, in-stream habitat enhancement, and planting of native vegetation. Tulalip worked with three families, the DeJongs, Zeilers, and Hingtgens, to purchase 33.4 acres of land and a 3.4-acre Conservation Easement along Allen Creek. The funding for the conservation purchase came from the Snohomish County Conservation Futures Program and matching funds from the Tulalip Tribes Natural and Cultural Resources Department.

Nicole Sieminski, Executive Director of the Tulalip Foundation, stated, “This partnership represents a groundbreaking moment for the Tulalip Foundation as we step into the role of a nonprofit conservation entity. Securing Conservation Futures grant funds allows us to protect and restore critical habitats, ensuring the health of our natural resources for future generations.”

The DeJong family recognized the importance of conservation and reached out. “We wanted to see this land preserved and restored to its natural state,” said Harmen DeJong. “Partnering with the Tulalip Foundation ensures that our vision for this land will be realized.”

Tom Teigen, Director of the Snohomish County Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, added, “This project highlights the power of collaboration in conservation. By working together, we can achieve significant environmental benefits and protect our precious ecosystems.”

For more information about the Tulalip Foundation and to support our conservation efforts, please visit <https://www.tulalipfoundation.org>. For more information regarding this acquisition project please contact Joe Sambataro, Conservation Advisor, The Tulalip Tribes (360) 716-4619.

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The Tulalip Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for the Tulalip Tribes and surrounding communities through charitable activities and programs. Our mission is to support the health, education, and cultural preservation of the Tulalip Tribes while promoting environmental stewardship and sustainable development. To learn more or donate, please visit <https://www.tulalipfoundation.org>

The Tulalip Tribes are the direct descendants of and the successors in interest to the Snohomish, Snoqualmie, Skykomish, and other allied bands signatory to the 1855 Treaty of Point Elliott.