

Resume of George D. Swanaset, Jr. (Yel7qaynem)

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Objective:

Preserving cultural resources is of paramount concern for the Nooksack Indian Tribe. We strive to achieve respect, and assurance that our cultural resources are not negatively impacted.

Experience:

**Water Quality Technician
Nooksack Indian Tribe/Water Quality Department
Deming Washington
1990-1998**

- Planning and constructing barbed wire fencing to protect stream banks, spawning beds, and over all water quality from live stock.
- Mapping stream channels in the lower basin of the Nooksack Rivers main stem.
- Getting familiar with tribal historical background of the Lower Main stem of the Nooksack River.
- Developing, tribal to community relationship with land owners in lower Nooksack River basin to under go a joint effort in expanding riparian zones on affected streams.
- Monitoring streams for water quality.

**Police officer
Nooksack Indian Tribe/ Law Enforcement
Deming Washington
1999-2000**

- Patrol and respond to all civil disputes within the boundaries of Nooksack Tribal lands.
- Report to Nooksack Indian Tribal Council.
- Develop a government to government relationship with county sheriffs department, and other local law departments.
- Develop respectful relationship with community members, respecting cultural diversity, privacy, and over all individuality.

Fisheries habitat Technician
Nooksack Indian Tribe Natural Resources Department
Deming Washington
2000-2004

- Assist with screening forest practices applications in Treaty resources area of the Nooksack Tribe, for potential impacts to fisheries and cultural resources.
- Assist with field review of the proposed timber sales of highest concern.
- Assist with field review of forest roads, and Road Maintenance and Abandonment plans.
- Assist with data collection for in-stream habitat conditions, including LWD, shade, habitat units(pools and riffles), cover types, ect. (data also used as criteria for potential cultural bathing areas).
- Equipment maintenance and management, understanding of generally used computer programs, (excel, word, access) and use of Global Positioning System (GPS), range finders, and departments Geographic Information System(GIS)

Cultural Habitat Technician
Nooksack Indian Tribe/ Natural Resources Department
Deming Washington
2004-2005

- Review all federal, state, county or any application for development, restoration, or any type of ground disturbing activity within the Nooksack Indian Tribes cultural and ceremonial seeded areas.
- Report to advisory committee, direct supervisor, or council, for any recommended input on actions to take place.
- Participate in or reviewing early planning of projects which potentially may involve cultural resource issues.
- Taking cultural resource management training or retraining courses from time to time.
- Coordinating consultation with other tribal government agencies which share interests, as well as land owners.
- Developing plans or project modifications, through consultants as appropriate, to address cultural resources issues consistent with the CRMP, or (Title 36)

Cultural Resources Director
Nooksack Indian Tribe Cultural Resources Department
Deming Washington
2006-2018

- **Design, develop, implement, preserve, protect, promote and manage preservation of Nooksack Culture.**
- Supervises staff in cultural management resources office.
- Keep an ongoing relationship with other Governing agencies.
- Oversee all culturally related projects to assure promotion of Nooksack culture.
- Continual participation in Forest Management, as well as our Natural resource issues.
- Ect.

Natural/Cultural Resources Director
Nooksack Tribe Natural Resource Department
Deming Washington
2018-2022

- Directed natural resource staff as well as cultural resource staff
- Integrated both natural resources and cultural resources, promoting awareness to both outside agencies, as well as internal departments the relationship between the two.
- Policy lead for cultural issues as well as natural resource issues
- Commissioner on the NWIFC (Northwest Indian Fish Commission).
- Initiated studies to ensure that our historical foot print in our Nooksack territories was updated, and that justification of our treaty resources gathering sites was protected.

Nooksack Cultural Resource Director
Nooksack Tribe Cultural Resource Department
Deming Washington
2022-present

- Continued protection of Nooksack Cultural Resources
- Promote cultural activities for the Nooksack Community
- Develop, and implement plans, continuing cultural resource protection
- Overseeing events coordinator, cemetery program, treaty resource protection, historical site protection, and language revitalization

Education:

Nooksack Valley School District
1975-1990

Northwest Indian College
GED 1993

Northwest Indian College/Whatcom Community College
(not completed)

Achievements/Skills:

- Use of GIS and GPS mapping systems.
- Certificate for designing a data base using Access, updating and adapting to new data base systems as available.
- Continual use of Microsoft Excel, word, and other computer programs, as systems evolve.
- Gained a respectful relationship with neighboring tribes, as well as other governing agencies, and private land owners, gaining access for tribal cultural use to sustain Nooksack cultures and traditions.
- Chaired the Nooksack Indian Tribes Cultural Committee/ Advisory board. (though stepped down and participate as a board member).
- Active member in tribes cultural society (ie. Canoe racing, carving, and maintenance ect.)
- Previous commissioner of the North West Indian Fish Commission (NWIFC)
- Acted as policy lead for Natural/Cultural resource department
- Active member of Northwest Regional Hunting community

NOOKSACK INDIAN TRIBE ELECCTION CANDIDATE STATEMENT

Candidate Name/Nickname(s) George Daniel Swanaset, Jr (Yel7qaynem)

Position Running For Vice Chairman

My name is George D. Swanaset, Jr (Yel7qaynem) and I am running for Nooksack Council, Vice Chairman. I am no stranger to the pollical table, and have for many years been behind the scenes in various positions. I understand that there are many different issues in which the tribal council faces daily, and that minds need to be open in order to make the best decisions moving forward for our membership. Each member of the council, individually bring to the table a special skill, knowledge, and/or experience. For me, it is the protection of our cultural integrity, and natural resources (treaty rights). As a lifelong advocate for culture, and natural resource protection, I understand the challenges that our Nooksack people face. With a proven track record of cultural resource, and treaty protection, I'm committed to ensuring that the integrity of our cultural existence is intact. It is my belief that every Nooksack household be guaranteed the benefits of learning our cultural background. As a diverse community, it is important to acknowledge and respect everybody's beliefs, at the same time assure that we do not lose sight of who we are, and where we come from. Preserving cultural/natural resources is of paramount concern for the Nooksack people. We strive to achieve respect, and assurance that our resources are not negatively impacted.