

SNEE-NEE-CHUM

Noxws' áʔaq / Always bracken fern roots June 2025 Temt'ámwx / Gooseberry time



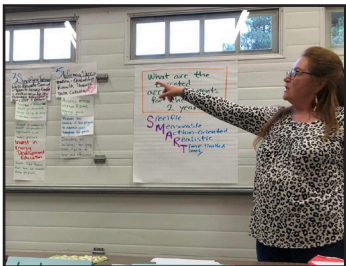
Salmon Ceremony Held at Nooksack River



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**Nooksack 2025
Salmon Seasons**
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Our Tribe gathered on May 22 for one of our most cherished cultural events of the year, the Salmon Ceremony. During the ceremony our speaker, Clayton Roberts, guided us through the celebration of what the species means to us and our people. After listening to a couple of witnesses, the explanation, and a blessing song, we moved onto prepping the salmon and then released them into the river. The ceremony concluded with a community dinner.



NOOKSACK INDIAN TRIBE

We are a tribe located in our ancestral homeland in the northwest corner of Washington state. Our name comes from a place name in our language and translates to “always bracken fern roots,” which illustrates our close ties to our land and the resources that continue to give strength to our people. Our tribe is located in Deming, nestled amongst majestic mountains, lush forest, and the meandering and dynamic Nooksack River. Here in this scenic locale, we maintain a Tribal Council and Tribal Government. Both our Council and Government work to create a better future for every Nooksack and to ensure our tribe’s sovereignty.

NOOKSACK TRIBAL COUNCIL

RoseMary LaClair, Chairwoman
Anna Brewer, Vice-Chairwoman
Gary E. Kentner, Treasurer
Frank Leyva, Secretary
Roman Swanaset-Simmonds, Council Member
Victoria Joe, Council Member
Ryawn Cline, Council Member
Jesse Madera, Council Member



SNEE-NEE-CHUM NEWSLETTER

Newsletter Editor:
Abby Yates
Official publication of the Nooksack Indian Tribe
PO Box 157
Deming, WA 98244
Website: nooksacktribe.org

Submit news, announcements, celebrations, or department updates for consideration to Administration at carmen.cooper@nooksack-nsn.gov
Items for the June newsletter are due May 14.



Left to Right:
Victoria Joe, Gary Kentner, Ryawn Cline, Jesse Madera, Anna Brewer

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOOKSACK DAYS CANOE RACES

JUNE 1st

AT BLOEDEL DONOVAN PARK

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 3rd
(in person & zoom)

MI'SQ'EQ'O COMMUNITY BUILDING

THE SIGN UP LINK FOR ZOOM IS ON THE TRIBES WEBSITE CALENDAR

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

JUNE 7th

MI'SQ'EQ'O COMMUNITY BUILDING



Recently members of our council had the opportunity to meet with Dan Galvan, the Acting NW Regional Director for The Bureau of Indian Affairs North West Region, and Scott Davis, Senior Advisor, Department of Interior, Indian Affairs. We had an important conversation with them about the need to make sure the fee to trust is not unnecessarily delayed.



Left to Right: Dan Galvan (Acting NW Regional Director for The Bureau of Indian Affairs North West Region), Anna Brewer, Scott Davis (Senior Advisor, Department of Interior, Indian Affairs).

WORDS OF THE MONTH

Tam Kw'ā7las


(summer)

Tam Kw'skw'ās

(warm moon)

NOOKSACK CULTURE PROGRAM

Hear the words of the month at nooksacktribe.org/word/ or scan here.



Happy Father's Day

JUNE 15

COUNCIL CORNER

Nooksack Community Health Needs Assessment

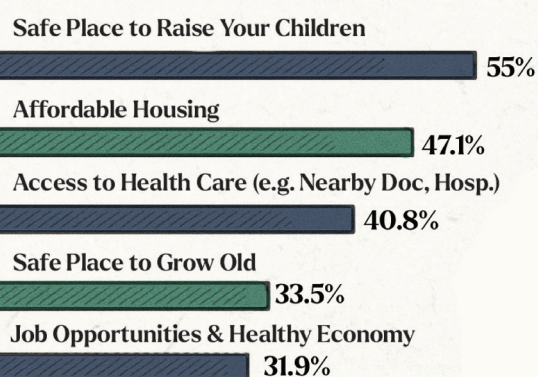
The Nooksack Tribal Health Department (NTHD), in collaboration with the Nooksack Tribal Council, is working to create a healthcare delivery strategy to align the Nooksack Tribe's vision and direction for the future.

To move forward, we need to understand where we are now. We took the information gathered from our Nooksack Community Health Needs Survey (n=487), NTHD Staff, Survey (n=28), key stakeholder interviews (n=11) and combined that with other available data from the NTHD, surrounding Whatcom County, and Washington State.

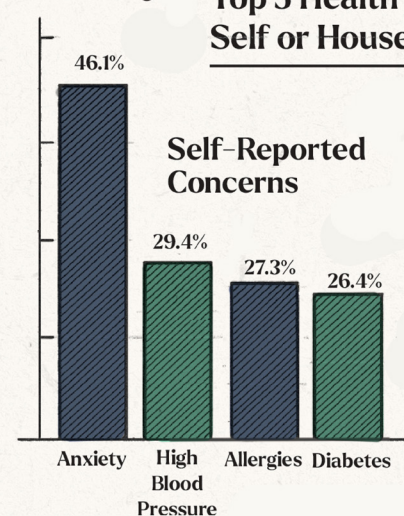
Together, this information told us:

- The three most important factors for a "healthy Community" include it being: 1) Safe place to raise children 2) Affordable Housing 3) Access to Healthcare
- The Top three health concerns for people and their immediate households are: 1) Anxiety 2) High Blood Pressure 3) Allergies
- 82.4% of our populations believes having a connection to Nooksack Tribal Culture contributes to their overall health and well-being
- 30.5% of the people that use the Nooksack Tribal Health Clinic are "Extremely Satisfied." Inversely, only 7.3% are "Extremely Unsatisfied."
- 37.3% of our community said "yes" there is a need for additional "Physical Health" services. 25.1% also said there is a need for more "Behavioral Health" services.
- 56.8% of our community indicated the New Health and Wellness Center should be open to the general public with 43.2% opposing the idea.
- 89% of the Clinical Care staff feel valued and respected. 68% come to work feeling motivated and inspired.

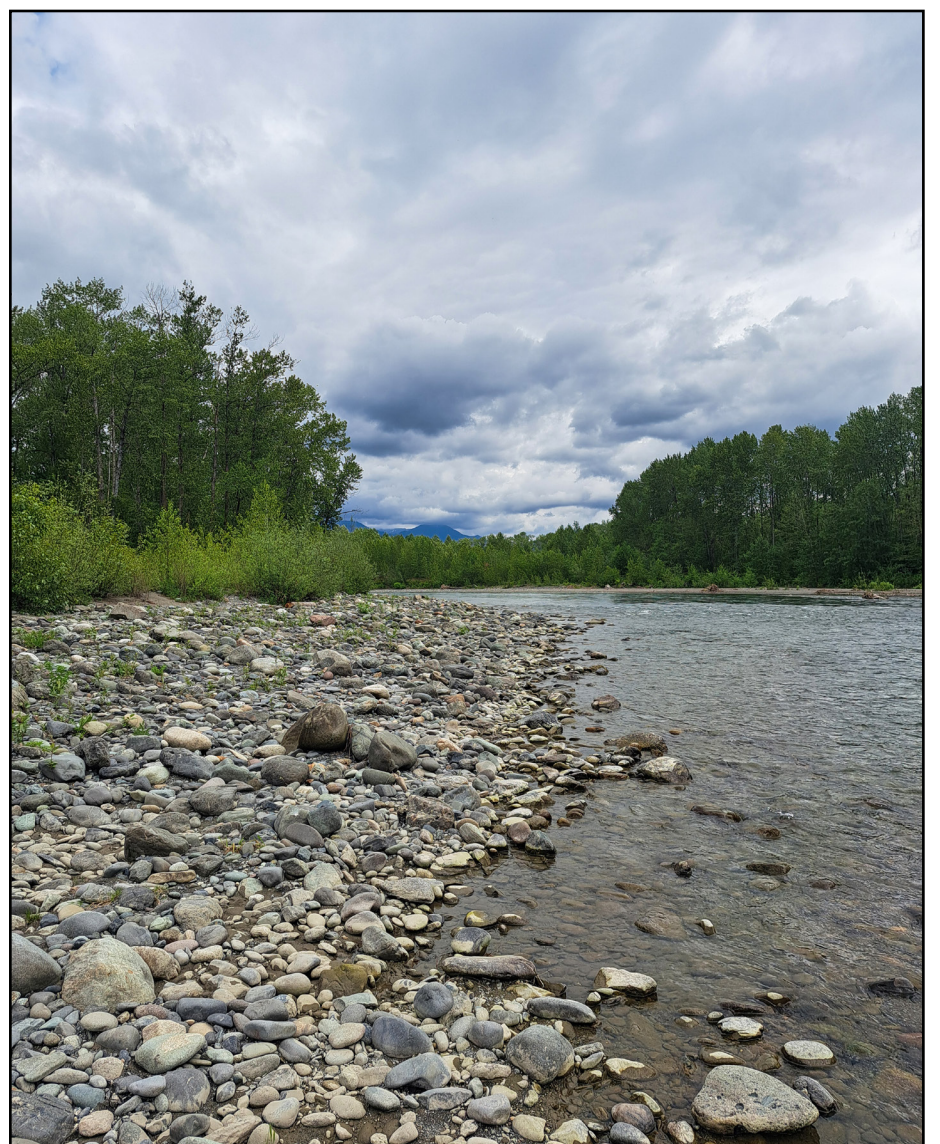
When asked what the 3 *most* important factors for a "Healthy Community" Tribal Members answered:



Top 5 Health Concerns for Self or Household



Cancer rates appear to be particularly high for AIAN women in Whatcom County.



Nooksack River by Nugent's Corner just days before the Salmon Ceremony

NOOKSACK LAND USE & LAND ACQUISITION PLAN

Over the past year, The Nooksack Tribe has taken important steps to create a clear and unified plan for how our lands can be used and expanded upon in the future. Through careful research and planning, we have created two strategic documents to guide us:

1. The Land Use Plan: Focused on how to best use the Tribe’s current lands, and more specifically, the Old Casino Property located at 5048 Mt Baker Hwy, Deming, WA.
2. The Land Acquisition Plan: Focused on growing and strengthening the Tribe’s current land base.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW AS A WHOLE:

- The two plans were created after extensive research. We held working sessions and interviews with leadership in addition to launching a community wide survey for all Tribal Members. A variety of analysis took place including site (infrastructure, environmental conditions) and market (regional trends and economic opportunities).
- Top development choices for the Old Casino Property: Hotel/lodging, full service restaurant, fast food restaurant, gaming.
- 80% of our community indicated that the Old Casino Property should be an economic driver, generating revenue for the Tribe .
- 76% of respondents feel that it is important for the developments to incorporate local culture and heritage.



Coastal Black Gooseberries

THE LAND USE PLAN KEY OUTCOMES:

- Community members overwhelmingly support expanding Tribal Housing, especially single-family homes, Elder Villages, and multi-family units.
- Two development corridors have been identified- Mt. Baker Highway Corridor and Deming Road Corridor.
- Mt. Baker Highway corridor will focus on capitalizing on the large number of tourists that will be exposed to economic (retail, revenue producing) messaging.
- The Deming Road Corridor will focus on community services.
- Our community recognizes the importance of preserving spaces for hunting, fishing, and gathering.
- There is interest in the future creation of cultural facilities potentially including: a venue for social gatherings, a dance ground, and a trail to connect the land with surrounding natural features
- All new developments must have a focus on environmental stewardship.

THE LAND ACQUISITION PLAN KEY OUTCOMES:

- We have a strategic focus on acquiring parcels of land that can connect to existing Tribal lands.
- Housing expansion is a priority, we recognize the urgent housing needs of our community.
- In alignment with the Mt. Baker Highway Corridor plan, we will target parcels along the highway to support business and drive tourism revenue.
- It is a goal to acquire land to host cultural practices and promote environmental conservation.

We ask that Tribal Members keep this information confidential. Sharing details about land acquisition efforts could impact property values and limit our ability to secure lands at fair prices.

Key Outcomes: Land Acquisition Planning



- Strategic Growth:** Focused on acquiring parcels that can connect existing Tribal lands and create stronger spaces for more freedom, and development opportunities.
- Housing Expansion:** Prioritizing land that is suitable to meet urgent housing needs in or around Deming, WA.
- Economic Opportunities:** Targeting parcels near or along Mt. Baker Highway to support businesses and tourism-driven growth.
- Cultural Preservation:** Acquiring land to host cultural practices and promote environmental conservation.



It’s that time of year when we head out to the beaches with friends and family to calm dig and play.

Discover Passes are required at State Parks (free to Nooksack Tribal Members) and are available at the Natural Resources Department

- Tribal Discover Passes do not expire and are good forever, that is why there is no expiration date on them.
- The **Discover Pass** offers you access to millions of acres of state recreation lands in Washington, including: ... More than 350 primitive recreation sites, including campgrounds and picnic areas. Nearly 700 water-access points. Nearly 2,000 miles of designated water and land recreation trails.
- The **Discover Pass** is now required for day visits to state parks and also provides access to millions of acres of state recreation lands, including trailheads, wildlife, and natural areas, heritage sites, and water-access points. One **pass** can be transferred between two vehicles.


For motorcycles:

On lands managed by DNR and WDFW, motorcycle riders may carry the pass with them.


At state parks: Use the fee envelope at the self-pay station and write the Discover Pass serial number on the envelope tab. Leave the tab on the motorcycle and place the fee envelope in the self-pay station box. For a day-use pass, insert \$10 into the fee envelope and deposit it in the pay station. Leave the tab on the motorcycle.

Penalties. The penalty for not having a Discover Pass is \$99. The fine may be reduced to \$59 if an individual provides proof of purchase of an annual Discover Pass to the court within 15 days after the notice of violation is written.

The Discover Pass is a motor vehicle permit only. You do not need a pass to access state recreation lands by boat or by non-motorized means (foot, horse, bicycle, etc.). Motor vehicles used to transport recreation equipment, such as vehicles pulling horse or boat trailers, must display the pass. However, the trailers being towed that are carrying the equipment do not need a Discover Pass. Boaters will still need to pay for such services as moorage and waste pumping.



DENTAL CLINIC UPDATE



WELCOME DR. CHAN TO OUR COMMUNITY!

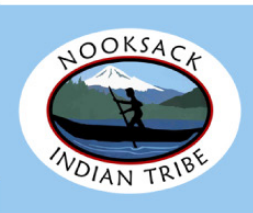


We're thrilled to introduce that Dr. Chan will be joining us temporarily until the end of August.

Dr. Chan comes highly recommended by our own Dr. Kristi Lisenmeyer; with over 30 years of experience and caring for patients of all ages.

She brings both expertise and a compassionate touch to our practice. Please join us in giving her a warm welcome!

BEGINNING MAY 19th
APPOINTMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE:
MONDAYS, TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS
TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT, PLEASE CALL US AT
360-306-5151



Summer Solstice

JUNE 20th

TEMKW'ÁLIS
MEANS SUMMER, WARM WEATHER
IN LHÉCHELESEM



Measles

IT ISN'T JUST A LITTLE RASH



Measles can be dangerous, especially for babies and young children.

MEASLES SYMPTOMS TYPICALLY INCLUDE

- High fever (may spike to more than 104° F)
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes
- Rash breaks out 3-5 days after symptoms begin



Measles Can Be Serious



About 1 out of 5 people who get measles will be hospitalized.



1 out of every 1,000 people with measles will develop brain swelling due to infection



1 to 3 out of 1,000 people with measles will die, even with the best care.



COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

- ▶ WHEN: JUNE 7th
- ▶ TIME: 9-12
- ▶ WHERE: COMMUNITY BUILDING
- ▶ WHAT: BREAKFAST, DOOR PRIZES, OMELET & WAFFLE BAR, CRAFT VENDORS!



AUDIT DISCUSSION

When we hired Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Jeff Levin, it was our expectation that all of our accounting processes of all financial transactions in all departments, would get analyzed, summarized and made easily reportable to oversight agencies, regulators, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and auditors.

This undertaking was a long and difficult task, but Jeff accepted that challenge, along with the help of our Trial accounting staff. Now, Jeff has reviewed almost every transaction as a Forensic Auditor would, for the entirety 2022 (and 2023). Jeff spent a great deal of his time being meticulous in all areas of accounting, examples of what he was working on can be seen below. This is just a sampling of the work he and the team have worked on.

- 1. Reviewed and cleaned up comingled funds as they related to:
- 2. Payroll across multiple departments (it's an ongoing focus to ensure correct transactions)

- 3. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds comingled across multiple departments (Please note: this is NOT an accusation towards anyone or department. However, many transactions were placed in wrong funds – either by human error or software error)
- 4. Reclassification of entries (fund codes, PAN's, etc)
- 5. Posting transactions that were never posted
- 6. Streamlining processes for all transactions, including approval processes

On May 6th, 2025, the 2022 Schedule of Expenditures of Federal/State/Other Awards (SEFA) and the Normal Trial Balance were submitted to REDW, the firm hired to perform the audits for our Tribe. Currently, REDW has provided the list of funds to be audited (Indian Self Determination, ARPA Treasury Fiscal Recovery Funds, Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Pacific Salmon Treaty Program, Tribal

Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and Emergency Rental Assistance Program).

Auditors are scheduled to be on-site the first week of June. Both audits, 2022 and 2023, will be back-to-back, so we expect to have both done by the end of summer. After the 2023 audit is done, Council will decide whether to put the 2024 audit out for bid. Completion and results of the audits will be posted.



Paddle to Lower Elwha

Dates: July 20th - August 5th

The Nooksack Way of life invites youth and young adults ages 11-24 to join us.

Protocol is open to all participants, but limited seating for Journey canoe is limited to (10 seats).

Seat rotation will be available so all youth will receive an opportunity to paddle.

FOR MORE INFO:

Contact: Danielle McKay
Email: Dmckay@nooksack-nsn.gov
Phone: (360)920-2733
Or stop in at the PPE Building: [4963 Deming Road, Deming WA] for an application.

NOOKSACK WAY OF LIFE PRESENTS

WAR CANOE CLUB

Join us for Canoe Practice

Monday - Thursday from 3:00pm to 5:00pm

N.W.O.L is looking for youth who are interested in Paddling for the 2025 season: Ages 11-24

Transportation will be provided if needed.

RSVP NOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT! Email: Dmckay@nooksack-nsn.gov

A photograph of a mobile market truck, labeled "NORTHWEST PAULIN" and "TWIN SISTERS MOBILE MARKET", parked on a street. A woman wearing a white helmet and a grey t-shirt stands next to a blue bicycle with a large cardboard box on the back. A sign in the foreground reads "ASK ABOUT OUR SENIOR VOUCHERS!". In the background, there are signs for "INCOME TAX SERVICE" and "VANESSA".



REFERRAL REMINDERS

PATIENT RESPONSIBILITY:

1. Patients are responsible for scheduling their own medical appointments unless assistant is requested.
2. Patients are responsible to ensure prior authorizations are obtained prior to any scheduled appointments.
3. Patients must notify the clinic within 72 hours if they are referred to another specialist by an outside Provider (ex: ER refers to specialist; such as neuro/ortho/ENT.)
4. If patient is seen at walk-in/urgent care or ER, they must notify the PRC department within 72 hours.
5. For ongoing established patient referrals; patient must be seen inhouse annually to update and meet with their primary Provider to discuss their specialty care needs regarding ongoing referral requests.
6. Patients who make medical appointments without a Referral in place are NOT eligible for PRC and will be responsible for the cost of any services not covered by insurance.
7. Direct Only patients are financially responsible for any and all services provided outside of the Nooksack Health Clinic

PURCHASED AND REFERRED CARE:

If you receive a bill at home and are eligible for Purchased and Referred Care (PRC), please bring it to the clinic as soon as possible to avoid any past-due balances being sent to collections. When referrals are made to outside providers, they are given instructions to bill PRC for any copays or remaining balances. However, this process does not always occur automatically. If you do receive an invoice, it's important to submit it to the Health Clinic's PRC program promptly for proper processing.

PATIENT REGISTRATION:

Please remember to bring all of your insurance cards to your visit so we can verify that your information is accurate and up to date.

REACH OUT TO **MEREDITH** FOR REGISTRATION
MLAFRANCE@NOOKSACK-NSN.GOV

NOOKSACK 2025 SALMON SEASONS

With preseason salmon planning wrapped up, we are entering the salmon season. This begins with limited openings in the Nooksack River for subsistence spring chinook. A 2025 subsistence chinook permit is required for Nooksack individuals to participate, as well as a Tribal ID. Subsistence fish cannot be sold

The area downstream from this opens 4:00 PM on Sundays. On Sept. 24 the area from the Blue Automotive Shop to the confluence also opens for coho, followed by chum.

Commercial chum opens in the Nooksack River Oct. 28 through Dec. 12, and is open 3 days a week (Tuesdays through Fridays), with areas upstream from the first bend above Slater Road bridge open 12:01 AM Tuesdays and the area downstream open 4:00 PM Tuesdays. All areas close 4:00 PM Fridays. There will also be a one-day subsistence opener scheduled on a day with no commercial fishing between Oct. 31 and Nov. 24. A mid-December hatchery steelhead season is unlikely to chronically low returns.

Marine salmon openers may include Fraser sockeye and pinks, but any August or September openers for these in Area 7/7A will be determined through US/Canada meetings of the Pacific Salmon Commission's Fraser River Panel. While the Fraser pink forecast is robust, the lack of harvestable surplus of late sockeye is likely to limit access to the pinks.

Bellingham Bay (Area 7B) opens for fall chinook August 1 through Sept. 5, open weekly from 4 PM Sundays through 4 PM Fridays, except on Aug. 1, when it opens 12:01 AM. Area 77H (Whatcom Waterway to the footbridge crossing downstream of Dupont Street) is open Aug. 1 through Sept. 19, open weekly 4 PM Sundays to 4:00 PM Fridays. Subsistence net and youth fisheries using modern and traditional methods may be scheduled on between Monday and Fridays by Tribes with coordination among co-managers.

Samish Bay (Area 7C) is open for commercial chinook fishing August 1-Sept. 19, open weekly 4 PM Sundays to 4 PM Saturdays. Samish Bay is closed southeasterly of a line from Oyster Creek to the fisheries marker on Samish Island, except hand pull gillnets may fish from a line from Oyster Creek to Scott's Point on Samish Island.

Bellingham Bay (Area 7B) is open for coho fishing Sept. 6 through Oct. 28, open 7 days a week. The Samish coho forecast is insufficient to support a coho fishery in 7C.

Chum fishing opens in Bellingham Bay (Area 7B) Oct. 28-Dec. 12, open weekly from 4:00 PM Tuesdays through 4:00 PM Fridays. Commercial chum fishing in Area 7/7A will open Oct. 10 if the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans forecast for Fraser chum is large enough.



and all catch must be sampled by Natural Resources staff. Individual regulations will be distributed for additional openers, and posted on the text message system for fishers who want information texted to their phones for fisheries openers.

Fall chinook and pink salmon fishing begins August 1 through Sept. 6 in the Nooksack River, open weekly 4 PM Sundays through 4 PM Saturdays, excepting areas open upstream of the first bend above Slater Road Bridge. This area opens 12:01 AM Sundays for fall chinook, and 12:01 AM the opening day each week for each salmon species opener.

Additional areas open for fall chinook and pink fishing are added upstream weekly, with only Marine Drive Bridge to Slater Bridge open Aug. 1-2, but Slater Bridge to Hannigan Bridge added Aug. 3-9. The area from Hannigan Bridge to Nugent's Corner is added Aug. 10-16 and then Nugent's Corner to the Nooksack Tribe Blue Auto Shop (located 1.3 miles downstream of the confluence) is added Aug. 17-23. The area from the confluence downstream 1.3 miles to the Blue Auto shop is closed for tribal fishing through Sept. 24 for all species.

Coho fishing opens in the Nooksack River Sept. 7 through Oct. 28, and is open 7 days a week, with areas upstream of the first bend upstream of Slater Bridge opening at 12:01 AM Sundays and closing 11:59 PM Saturdays.

WELCOME JUNE!

Culture Activity Night in May



Devil's Club Salve & Lip Balm

FIELD NOTES FROM NATURAL RESOURCES

Throughout the year, the Department issues individual regulations for each fish and shellfish opener that are consistent with what we have agreed to with other tribes and WDFW (co-managers). These individual regulations are distributed to other Tribes and WDFW who also fish in the marine areas that we fish in and/or in the Nooksack River. Our first salmon fishery of the year is the Ceremonial and Subsistence (C&S) spring chinook fishery in the Nooksack River. This is a permit-only fishery, which our department issues to interested fishers. Our Fisheries biologists and Technicians sample the catch of our fishers for submission to WDFW labs to provide data we are required to report



to NMFS. Sampling removes scales for age data, collects coded wire tags to help determine harvest rates, collects otoliths, and records fin clip status to determine natural and hatchery origin. Sampling of chinook carcasses by department staff on spawning grounds collects the same information, though this is to determine population abundances.

The next salmon season is sockeye in some years when Fraser sockeye forecasts are large enough to support fisheries or for fall chinook in August. Coho, pink, and chum fisheries are scheduled in late summer and fall. Steelhead are also a threatened species under ESA, and we do not have a harvestable surplus of wild steelhead. There is a small hatchery non-local early winter steelhead program, and when forecast returns are sufficient, we develop an annual winter steelhead management plan with Nooksack co-managers and fish for these in mid-December. We issue the required permits for this fishery.

Our halibut fisheries have been set in recent years by way of an annual Inter-tribal MOU between Coastal and

Puget Sound halibut tribes, and this is usually negotiated in February and March. The International Pacific Halibut Commission determines the quota each year for regions, including ours. As with many Treaty marine species that are hard to estimate population sizes for, catch per unit effort (CPUE) is considered in estimating halibut abundance.

Individual regulations are issued for all of our fisheries, including halibut, crab, shrimp, salmon and steelhead, geoduck, clams, sea cucumbers, sea urchins, scallops, and even crayfish. The shellfish species have either co-manager or intertribal management plans, which we negotiate and regulate our fisheries under. These include a co-manager region and one crab management plan. Buoy tags are required for some crab openers, which we issue to individual crabbers. Tribes split the crab quota with WDFW commercial and recreational fishers, and there are many intertribal meetings to schedule these fisheries. We also developed and implemented the Co-manager Region 1 Shrimp Management Plan, which has sub-areas with individual quotas and boats assigned to fish. There can be multiple meetings to reach an agreement on this and other fishing plans and also to coordinate openings.

2024-2025 Deer and Elk Harvested by GMU

Species	GMU	Male	Female	Total
Deer	407	1	3	
Deer	418	1	4	
Deer	426	0	1	
Deer	437	4	1	
Deer	651	1	1	17
Elk	418	8		
Elk	407	1		
Elk	437	1		
Elk	490	1		
Elk	485	2		
Elk	651	2		15



HUNTING TAG DUE DATE

418-Special Hunt	December 31 st
Deer/Elk	February 28 th
Cougar	August 31 st
Mountain Goat	August 31 st
Bear	August 31 st
Ceremonial	3 days after expiration

*All tags must be turned in No Later than 30 days after expiration except the date of the CEREMONIAL tags which are due within 3 days after expiration. \$10.00 fee will be assessed for each late tag. Payments must be paid with Accounting before receiving additional tags.

**\$7.50 replacement for each lost tag.

COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE/PERMITS

FEES:



PERMIT TYPE:	COST:	DECAL ABBREVIATION
FISHING DECALS	\$20.00	
FISHING BUYER/SELLER LICENSE	\$0.00	Free for Tribal Members
FISHING ID	\$5.00	C
CRAB	\$20.00	S
SHRIMP	\$20.00	SU
SEA URCHINS	\$20.00	SG
SEA CUCUMBERS	\$20.00	G
GEODUCKS	\$20.00 PER VESSEL	
SUBSISTENCE IS FREE AND NOT FOR SALE		SUB
NEW VESSEL REGISTRATION	\$25.00 PER VESSEL	
RENEWAL VESSEL REG.	\$25.00	

ALL FISHING PERMITS EXPIRE ANNUALLY ON JUNE 30TH
FISH BUYERS LICENSE EXP. DEC. 31ST

HUNTING TAGS

COUGAR TAG	FREE	EXP: AUG. 31	
DEER/ELK TAG	\$10.00	EXP: FEB. 28TH	ELDERS REC. FREE
BEAR/MTN. GOAT	\$15.00	EXP: AUG. 31	ELDERS REC. FREE
418 ELK RAFFEL	\$20.00		EVERYONE PAYS
LATE FEE	\$10.00		EVERYONE PAYS
REPLACEMENT TAG FEE	\$7.50		EVERYONE PAYS

FISHERIES/HUNTERS HOTLINE # 360-592-5140

WILDLIFE SAFETY REMINDER

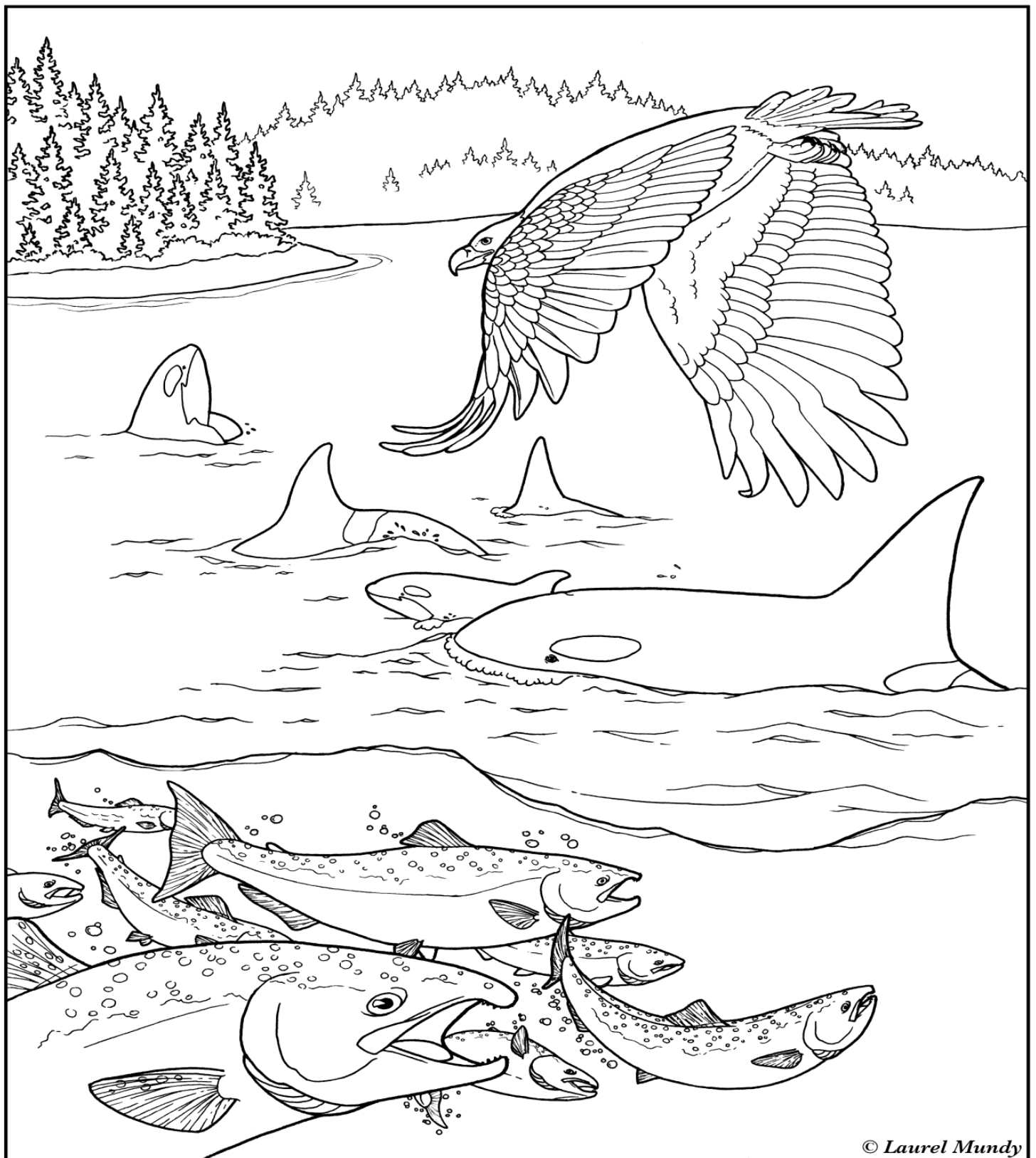


WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS REPORTED:



There have been several reports of wildlife sightings in our Nooksack Tribal community in the last several days. With the warmer weather now in full swing, a few reminders for the Tribal Communities.

- If wildlife is spotted in the Tribal housing sites, call 911 and report this information so Nooksack Tribal Law Enforcement can respond.
- We all love our pets and want to ensure they get fresh air, but pets left unattended outside can make easy targets for wildlife (bears, cougars, bobcats, coyotes, etc.).
- Household garbage, left over food, pet food and barbecues can attract wildlife if left outside and not in a proper garbage can/container or properly cleaned.
- To ensure an immediate response from Nooksack Tribal Police Department, please call "911", not the Nooksack Tribal Police Department Office.

JUNE COLORING PAGE




© Laurel Mundy


NOOKSACK VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL INDIGENOUS CLUB

EVERY WEDNESDAY!
ROOM 103 | 2:30PM - 3:30PM
 TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED IF NEEDED.



NORTH INTERTRIBAL VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM (NIVRP)

Assisting Native Americans and Alaska Natives living in Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties with a permanent disability that is impeding their ability to get or keep a job.



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Enrolled in a federally recognized Tribe;
- Age 16 and older;
- Living in the NIVRP service area;
- Have a physical or mental impairment.

Tammy Cooper-Woodrich | Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

Available at **Nooksack Social Services**, Monday and Tuesday
 360-592-0135


Available at **Bellingham NIVRP Office**, Wednesday-Friday
 360-671-7626
 3201 Northwest Ave. #8

2025 Youth Indian Police Academy

Seeking Highly Motivated High School Students

BIA-BIE Youth Indian Police Academy

The Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Education are hosting the third annual Youth Indian Police Academy for high school students held at the Riverside Indian School. Students will leave the program with an understanding of community policing, which is focused on providing encouragement, hope, inspiration, and mentorship for participants.



FACTS & TASKS


When:
June 15-27, 2025

Where:
Riverside Indian School
Anadarko, OK

Deadline:
May 09, 2025

HANDS-ON LEARNING:

- Accident Investigation & Crime Scene Labs
- Driving Under the Influence Simulations
- Emergency Medical Services Certification
- Full Immersion Learning Field Trips
- K9 Demonstrations
- Nightly Team Building Events
- Special Weapons & Tactics Demonstrations
- Tactical Training Exercises



How to Apply:

Twenty-eight students will be chosen to participate and receive travel, housing, and meals. Students must submit a five-paragraph essay explaining who they are, their life goals, and why they want to attend the Youth Indian Police Academy. Final essays must be emailed to David.Conley@bia.gov on or before May 09, 2025.

Note for Guardians:

Upon student selection, guardians must complete an admissions package, which will be emailed after selections are finalized.



GATHERING OF OUR GIFTS

BEADED KEYCHAINS OR LANYARDS

CLASSES ARE OFFERED FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY
3PM - 5PM

MARCH – DECEMBER
4963 DEMING ROAD

YOU WILL LEARN HOW TO CREATE A PATTERN AND RECEIVE TIPS ABOUT DESIGN, TECHNIQUE, AND CONSTRUCTION.

REACH OUT TO DANIELLE MCKAY OR DAKOTA DAVIS FOR REGISTRATION. DMCKAY@NOOKSACK-NSN.GOV

AGES 11-25







N.W.O.L. INVITES YOU TO Kweq'smani't CULTURAL CLUB

EVERY CLUB FRIDAY
MT. BAKER HIGH SCHOOL
9AM - 9:30AM

ROOM# 208 - JR HIGH SIDE








GATHERING OF OUR GIFTS

COOKING TRADITIONAL DISHES

CLASSES ARE OFFERED FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS, AGES 11-25
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY
3PM - 5PM | 4963 DEMING ROAD

YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT FOOD SOVEREIGNTY MOVEMENT AND THE CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF FOOD. STUDENTS WILL LEARN HOW TO PREPARE TRADITIONAL DISHES USING INDIGENOUS INGREDIENTS.

REACH OUT TO DANIELLE MCKAY OR DAKOTA DAVIS FOR REGISTRATION. DMCKAY@NOOKSACK-NSN.GOV



NOOKSACK TRIBE'S ENERGY FUTURE: YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Over the past year and a half, a team of staff and Tribal members has been working with external advisors to craft an Energy Sovereignty Plan for the Nooksack Indian Tribe. Here's a glimpse into our journey and the exciting path ahead.

ENERGY VISION: A FUTURE WE CAN BUILD TOGETHER

Imagine a future where every home is energy-efficient, transportation is green and safe, and our cultural heritage is preserved and celebrated. Our Energy Sovereignty Plan outlines a practical vision where:

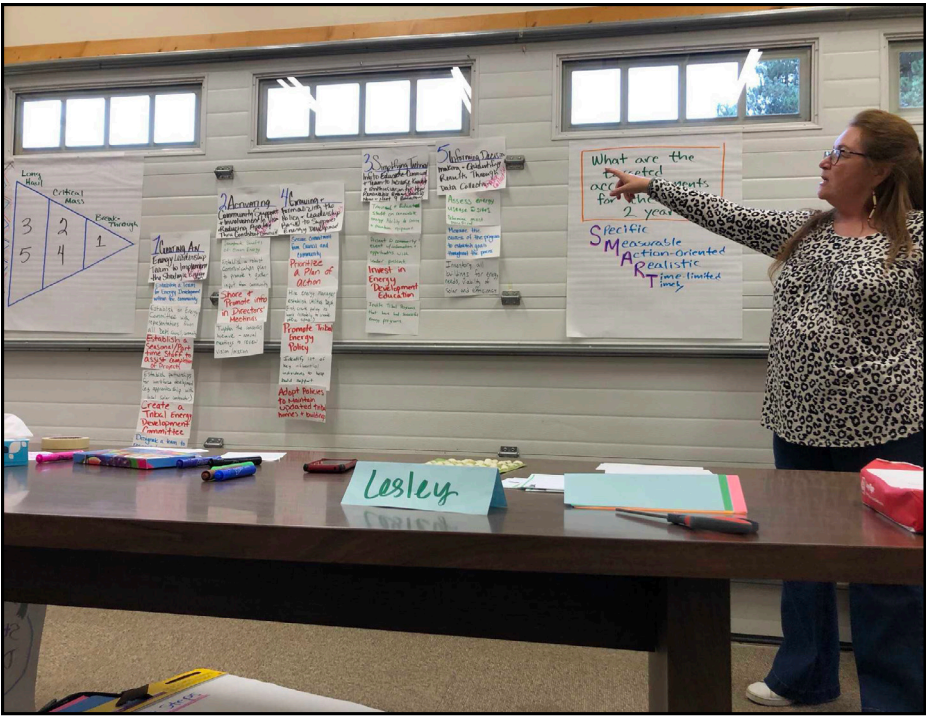
- **Safe & Green Transportation:** Electric vehicle fleets and robust charging infrastructure ensure mobility without harming our environment.
- **Energy-Efficient Homes:** Every tribal member enjoys the comfort and savings of energy-efficient housing.
- **Cultural Preservation:** Our identity and traditional practices are nurtured through sustainable energy initiatives.

This vision isn't just a dream—it's a roadmap created by our community, for our community.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS: THE NEXT STEPS

In the coming two years, we'll focus on concrete actions that align with our strategic energy vision:

1. **Implementing Renewable Energy Projects:** Assessing buildings to identify sources of energy waste and the feasibility of solar panels. Several grant opportunities have been identified to implement solar panels, head pumps, and other efficiency improvements for both community buildings and residences.
2. **Enhancing Energy Security:** Creating redundancy in our energy systems to ensure safety and reliability of critical community resources. Preliminary feasibility studies have been completed for solar and battery microgrids for the 5 Cedars Elder Housing, Administration Building, and Sulwhanon Community Center.
3. **Promoting Education and Training:** Empowering our members with the skills needed for maintaining and advancing our energy initiatives. For example, hands-on solar



installation workshops are being organized in partnership with Northwest Indian College.

FACING CHALLENGES HEAD-ON: YOUR INPUT IS VITAL

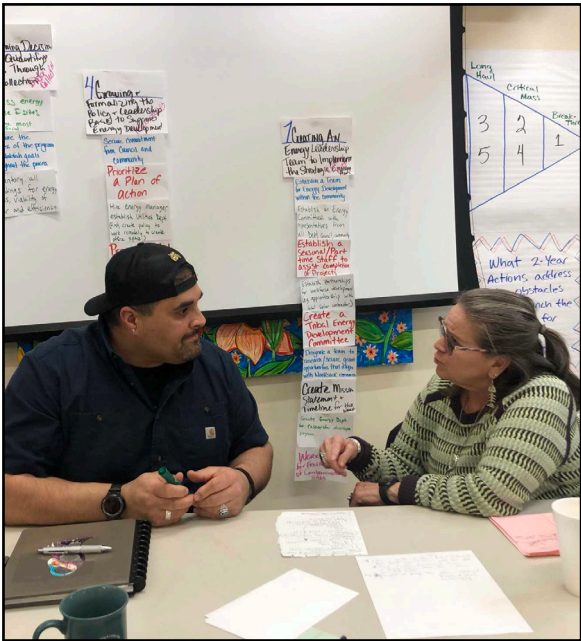
Our journey towards this vision isn't without obstacles. Key issues that have been identified include aging infrastructure, lack of energy expertise and capacity within the Tribe, and the need for better communication. By acknowledging these challenges, we can develop realistic strategies that turn obstacles into opportunities for growth and innovation.


The Energy Sovereignty Plan is a living document, evolving with the needs and insights of our community. Your voice is crucial in shaping our energy future. We invite you to join the conversation, share your ideas, and participate in the upcoming community engagement session:

NOOKSACK COMMUNITY CLEAN ENERGY LISTENING SESSIONS JUNE 10-11, 2025 | 5:30-8:00 PM EACH EVENING MI'SQ'EQ'O COMMUNITY BUILDING

Dinner and raffle prizes will be provided
All are welcome!
Questions? Contact ryan.roberts@nooksack-nsn.gov

Together, we can ensure that the Nooksack Tribe not only survives but thrives in a sustainable, energy-efficient future. Let's embrace this journey with optimism and determination, honoring our past while boldly stepping into the future.





You Are Invited

NOOKSACK COMMUNITY CLEAN ENERGY LISTENING SESSIONS

JUNE 10-11, 2025 | 6:00-8:00 PM EACH EVENING

NOOKSACK COMMUNITY BUILDING | 2515 SULWHANON DR, EVERSON, WA 98247

Join us for two evenings of conversation, learning, and connection as we explore clean energy planning and programs that support Nooksack households and the broader community.

TUESDAY, JUNE 10

- Dinner and welcome
- Hear from PSE, Spark Northwest, ETIPP, and others
- Visit information tables on energy savings, EVs, assistance, and clean energy projects

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11


- Small group discussions and interactive survey
- Visioning talk: "What could clean energy mean for our Tribe?"
- Contribute ideas to our "Energy Tree"
- Gift cards provided

Meals provided both nights. Family-friendly atmosphere.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

Ross Cline Jr. - rccline@nooksack-nsn.gov

Ryan Roberts - ryan.roberts@nooksack-nsn.gov





Eliza Antiste, Louanne Roberts, Russell Roberts, and Deana Kelly are our 2024/2025 royalty. They've been traveling around representing the Nooksack Tribe at pow wows. We are proud of them!



NOOKSACK INDIAN TRIBE DIABETES HEALTH CHALLENGE JANUARY - DECEMBER 2025

Do you receive your diabetes care at the Nooksack Tribal Health Clinic?
Complete the Annual Diabetes Health Challenge and receive a **\$30 retail voucher!**
Steps to complete:

- Diabetes Health Exam - Medical Provider
- Fasting labs, including Hemoglobin A1c
- UACR (urine test to assess kidney function)
- Foot Exam
- Eye Exam (with retinopathy screening)
- Dental Exam
- Nutrition Appointment with Registered Dietitian Nutritionist

Schedule an appointment with Meredith LaFrance, MS, RDN, CD to receive your voucher.

GATHERING OF OUR GIFTS



CEDAR WEAVING

BRACELETS, HEADBANDS, OR BASKETS


CLASSES ARE OFFERED FOR
COMMUNITY MEMBERS, AGES 11-25
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY
3PM - 5PM

MARCH – DECEMBER
4963 DEMING ROAD

**LEARN THE CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE
BEHIND THE ART OF CEDAR WEAVING, AND
THE CONNECTION TO NATIVE IDENTITY**

REACH OUT TO DANIELLE MCKAY OR DAKOTA DAVIS FOR REGISTRATION
DMCKAY@NOOKSACK-NSN.GOV

ELDERS JACKETS



Elders, have you received your elder's jacket? If not, please coordinate with Anna Brewer to get yours!

Anna Brewer Contact Info:
abrewer@nooksack-nsn.gov 360-922-9199
4979 Mt. Baker Hwy. Suite G, Deming, WA

The logo on the Elders jackets is an eagle design created by Jason LaClair in 2018.

It is called, “Guardians of our people”. It is meant to give protection to our beloved Elders whenever they wear it.

JUNE 2025

ELDER’S LUNCH MENU

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2 Ham Hashbrowns Boiled Eggs English Muffin Yogurt & Berries	3 Sweet & Sour Chicken Rice Egg Rolls Mandarin Oranges	4 Hamburger Soup Fried Bread Veggies Chocolate cake with frosting	5 Pork Chops Rice Steamed Veggies Applesauce	6 FOOD BANK Fish Sandwiches Clam Chowder Strawberry Pretzel Jell O
9 BBQ Chicken Potato Salad Baked Beans Melons	10 COMMODITIES Indian Taco: Beef, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Cheese, Onion & Salsa Pudding	11 Scrambled eggs with spam & hash browns with peppers and onions Bagel Yogurt w/berries	12 BBQ Salmon Rice Green Salad w/ veggies Watermelon	13 FATHER’S DAY OBSERVED CLOSED
16 Ham & Cheese Sandwiches Veggie sticks Chocolate Mousse	17 Teriyaki Chicken thighs Rice Steamed Veggies Cutie oranges	18 BBQ Hamburgers Chips Veggie sticks Strawberry cake w/ frosting	19 JUNETEENTH CLOSED	20 Biscuits & Gravy Boiled Eggs Hash Browns Sausage Yogurt w/ berries
23 BBQ Beef Hot Dogs Chili Fruit Salad	24 Tuna Casserole Peas Wheat roll Applesauce	25 Steak Baked Potato Steamed Veggies Wheat Roll	26 Turkey & Cheese Sandwiches Chips Veggie Sticks Brownies	27 Swedish Meatballs Egg Noodles Steamed Veggies Jello w/fruit
30 Chicken Burgers Potato Wedges Veggie sticks Pudding	1	2	3	4

TRIBAL OFFICES CLOSED

June 13 - Fathers’s Day Observed
June 19 - Juneteenth

Garden Together



DEMING LIBRARY
2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH 4-5 PM

FOOD BANK DISTRIBUTION

June 6 & July 11
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

STOWW DISTRIBUTION

June 10 & July 8
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.



Nooksack Social Services | 5061 Deming Road

SNEE-NEE-CHUM NEWS

STRAIGHT TO YOUR INBOX

Subscribe!



Tribal Council MEETING
JUNE 03



6PM at the MI’SQ’EQ’O COMMUNITY BUILDING
2515 SULWHANON DR, EVERSON, WA 98247
and via Zoom - NOOKSACKTRIBE.ORG



We’re on Instagram

@NooksackTribe



ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACTS

Tribal Council Office	(360) 592-5164
Tribal Council Fax.....	(360) 592-4506
Administrative Office Main.....	(360) 592-5176
Administrative Fax.....	(360) 592-2125
Emergency & Risk Management (Mgr Dan Roberts)	
Office Hours: 7:30-4	(360) 526-2223
After Hours non-emergency.....	(360)676-6911
Early Childhood Education	
Head Start - Deming.....	(360) 592-0141
Head Start - Everson.....	(360) 966-0523
Education	
Education Main Office.....	(360) 966-2043
Youth Program.....	(360) 966-2043
Health Services	
Behavioral Health	(360) 966-2376
Dental Clinic.....	(360) 306-5151
Genesis II Office.....	(360)-398-6399
Medical Clinic	(360) 966-2106
Medical Business Office	(360) 966-7704
Law Enforcement (Police Chief Francisco Sanchez)	
Police Department.....	(360) 592-9065
Natural & Cultural Resources	
Natural Resources (Director Gary Kentner)	(360) 592-5176

Fishing and Shellfish Fisheries Hotline.....	(360) 592-5140
Cultural Resources (Dir. George Swanaset, Jr.).....	(360) 306-5759
Social Services (Director Sativa Robertson).....	(360) 592-0135
Elders Office.....	(360) 592-0100
TANF - Deming.....	(360) 592-0135
TANF - Skagit	(360) 848-1758
GED Office Nooksack.....	(360) 592-0135 ext. 3425
GED Office Skagit	(360) 848-1758
Homelessness Resource (Mgr Tiffani Zamudio).....	(360-592-0135
Youth & Family Services.....	360) 306-5090
(Director Montaine Healy-Green)	
Domestic Violence Office	(360) 592-5176
DV Emergency Hotline.....	(360) 592-4164
Other Services	
Auto Shop	(360) 306-5756
Child Support	(360) 306-5090
Economic Development & Planning.....	(360) 592-0162
Enrollment Office (Dir: Roy Bailey).....	(360) 592-0135
Facilities & Maintenance (Dir: Richard Edwards).....	(360) 592-0162
Housing Authority Office (Dir: Malori Klushkan).....	(360) 592-5163
Mí sq’ eq’ ó Community Building.....	(360) 966-9153
North Intertribal Vocational Rehabilitation Program (Counselor Tammy Cooper-Woodrich).....	(360) 671-7626
Tribal Court.....	(360) 306-5125
Tribal Court Fax	(360) 306-5181
Tribal Gaming.....	(360) 592-5472
Tribal Veterans Program	(360) 592-5176 ext. 3306
(Mgr Christopher Gellys)	
Casino & Market Center	
Nooksack Northwood Casino	(360) 734-5101
Toll free.....	(877) 777-9847
Nooksack Market Center	(360) 592-5864

