



**CHARITABLE
CONTRIBUTIONS**

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

Address:
3057 E Bakerview Rd
Bellingham, WA 98226

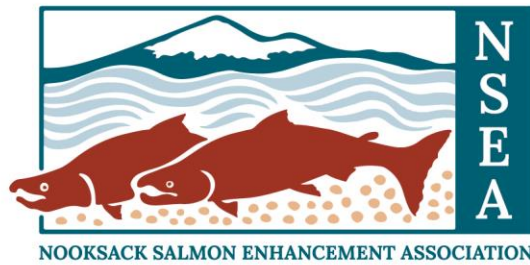
Contact:
(360) 715-0283
<https://n-sea.org>

Organization's General Goals:
We engage our community to recover wild salmon for future generations.

Date of Award:	Level:
2024 Q3	\$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from
Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association.

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Marilyn Sheldon, Director
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund
8802 27th Ave NE Tulalip, WA 98271

August 27th 2025

RE: Q3 2024 14.2

Dear Ms. Sheldon,

NSEA would like to extend gratitude for the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund's support of our work to reverse the trend of declining salmon runs in Whatcom County. Funding from Tulalip Tribe alongside other partners grew our impact toward salmon recovery in goals 2025 by supporting NSEA interns to provide immersive outdoor education to 152 preschool-age students so that they could learn and play safely in nature while forming a deep lifelong connection to salmon and their habitats! This cutting-edge program fosters stewardship ethics that protect salmon while helping fill the childcare gap that transitional kindergarten programs leave for working families in the summer months.

Now in its 5th season, Camp Keystone served 152 students and provided 128 families with childcare to increase childcare slots in support of youth and their families in 2025. In addition, the program served 5 low-income families with childcare subsidies that supported their participation in an immersive, enriching 100% outdoor camp opportunity.

As they explored NSEA's rich outdoor campus, students enjoyed daily lessons on salmon and their habitats interwoven into both structured and unstructured play. Structured play included salmon story times, games, art, and interactive puppet shows each Friday that focused on salmon stewardship ethics. Students also enjoyed ample unstructured time with supervision from well-trained staff where they made up their own games—like this summer's student-imagined "mud pie bakery" complete with pinecones and other found-treasures for garnish. With guidance from camp educators, these opportunities build kindergarten readiness skills in preschool age youth like taking turns, following directions, making safe choices, and listening to yourself and others as you learn and play together.

Camp Keystone offers an invitation for the next generation to get back to nature-based learning where all crucial aspects of childhood development are supported. Daily lessons in the outdoor classroom help expand students' understanding of themselves and others, foster healthy development in the following key areas:

- Physical health: Sunlight exposure boosts vitamin D level and regular physical activity is good for the body;
- Mental health: Time in nature reduces stress and anxiety;
- Academic performance: Nature-based learning improves critical thinking and academic performance;
- Social skills: Playing with other children outside helps children learn to solve problems together;
- Connection to the world: Nature can help children understand their place in the world and develop an emotional connection to it, encouraging future stewardship action;

As one parent noted, "My son loved being outside in nature and we loved the variety of trips and outings. I really saw his social skills and confidence grow. Thank you for offering this special and unique program for youth in our community!"

360.715.0283 | www.n-sea.org | 3057 E. Bakerview Road, Bellingham, WA 98226

The deeply enriching outdoor learning experience that Camp Keystone provides would not be possible without the support of funders like the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund. By helping youth form a deeper connection to salmon and an understanding of the role we all play in watershed health, we're inspiring a life-long love of salmon and building the next generation of stewards to ensure a future where salmon runs and biodiversity flourish in the Pacific Northwest. Thank you for joining with us as we work toward this vision—we will be sure to send you a copy of our annual report in 2026!

Sincerely,



Annitra Peck, NSEA Executive Director
apec@n-sea.org, 360-715-0283

