

A PROJECT OF THE TULALIP TRIBES

Qwuloolt Estuary

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Marya Moses, Danny Moses, Neil Moses, and Robert Moses fish on Tulalip Bay, near the mouth of the Snohomish River Estuary.

## OWULOOLT IS A HISTORIC PLACE

Since time immemorial Qwuloolt sustained the first people with an abundance and diversity of plant life. The salmon that feed the people depend upon the habitat of Qwuloolt for their survival. In 1998 the Tulalip Tribes and partners began restoring 400 acres of tidal marsh. Through land purchases, scientific studies, and by reshaping the land, together, we are restoring the natural systems that allow for a healthy estuary.

Restoring Qwuloolt honors our ancestors and the natural world, and improves the environment for all of us.

## THE TULALIP TRIBES LEADS OWULOOLT RESTORATION

The Tulalip Tribes is leading the restoration of 400 acres of the Snohomish River Delta. Diked, drained, and developed for over a century, the estuarine marsh is being reconnected to the flow of saltwater tides from Puget Sound and freshwater from the Snohomish River and its tributaries. The project is named Qwuloolt for the Lushootseed word that means marsh.

## ESTUARIES SUSTAIN OUR ECOSYSTEM

Owuloolt is part of the historic 19-square mile Snohomish River estuary—one of the largest in Puget Sound—which once included marshes, lowland forest, mudflats, and interconnected channels.

Removing the levee and letting fresh and salt water return to Qwuloolt will:

- Support salmon runs in the Snohomish, Snoqualmie, and Skykomish rivers
- >> Restore rearing habitat for salmon in the estuary
- >> Open up 16 miles of spawning tributaries
- >> Filter pollutants out of the water

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Cattails are a key estuary plant that provides food, nesting, shelter, and cover for many species.

## TULALIP WORKS WITH MANY PARTNERS

The Tulalip Tribes is a leader in Puget Sound salmon recovery. Partnerships help make this important work possible. The Tulalip Tribes are working closely with federal, state and local governmental partners to restore the Qwuloolt.

#### PARTNERS

- >> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- >> City of Marysville
- >> National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- >> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- >> Washington Department of Ecology
- >> Natural Resources Conservation Service
- >> Puget Sound Partnership

#### **OTHER SUPPORTERS**

- >> Washington State's Salmon Recovery Funding Board
- >> Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- >> Sound Salmon Solutions
- >> Snohomish River Basin Salmon Recovery Forum

### COMMUNITIES WILL BENEFIT FROM A HEALTHY QWULOOLT

Located in the City of Marysville, in view of Interstate 5—and one of the fastest growing areas in our state—Qwuloolt is a place of beauty and refuge for people too.

- >> A sanctuary from urban development
- A living, learning laboratory for local school children
- An important habitat for birds, fish, and plant life, enhancing this place we all call home

Estuaries enhance nearby lands, including a forest where Tulalip elder Inez Bill gathers plants.



## MANY SPECIES BENEFIT FROM A HEALTHY OWULOOLT



## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit our website at www.qwuloolt.org

**CHINOOK** соно CHUM PINK **STEELHEAD** THROAT TROUT CU **BULL TROUT BALD EAGLE** MALLARD **CANADA GOOSE** BEAVER **RIVER OTTER** WEASEL COYOTE VOLES SITKA SPRUCE