



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 6, 2024

### **Tulalip Tribes Celebrate the Return of Historic Upland Territories**

Tulalip, Washington – The Tulalip Tribes are delighted to announce the acquisition of approximately 18,000 acres near Carnation, Washington, a historic step towards reclaiming our mountain homelands. As successors to the Snohomish, Snoqualmie, Skykomish, and allied tribes and bands signatory to the 1855 Treaty of Point Elliott, the Tulalip Tribes have a deep cultural, historical, political, and social connection to these lands. The return of these territories is a momentous occasion, providing vital access to our ancestral places, where our foods and medicines grow, ensuring the continuation of our cultural heritage.

“Reconnecting our people to our historic land is critical,” stated Tulalip Chairwoman Teri Gobin. “Owning a working forest means we can foster an environment that supports both commercially valuable species and those significant to our people. This land will become a haven for trees, shrubs, grasses, and animals that are integral to our traditions. We envision a working forest sustained by traditional knowledge, promoting a balanced ecosystem.”

For over 170 years, our landscapes have endured dramatic alterations and ecological degradation. This purchase allows us to restore a portion of our ancestral territory, guided by our traditional stewardship values, ensuring the preservation of our way of life for future generations.

This acquisition strengthens our culture and opens up opportunities for restoration and revenue generation. These upland territories, among the few remaining undeveloped lands, provide essential habitats for plants and animals and maintain pristine waters crucial for downstream salmon habitats. Tulalip will manage this area as a working forest, generating funds for tribal initiatives while cultivating an environment recognizable to our ancestors.

This purchase more than doubles the Tulalip Tribes' land ownership on and off the reservation, marking a significant milestone in regaining access to our ancestral territory. This acquisition represents an investment in Tulalip's future, supported by the Trust for Public Land, to whom we extend our gratitude.

For more information about Tulalip, visit [www.WeAreTulalip.com](http://www.WeAreTulalip.com).

To support Tulalip's efforts to reclaim our ancestral lands, please consider donating to the Tulalip Foundation at [tulalipfoundation.org/Giving](http://tulalipfoundation.org/Giving). As a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, every dollar goes directly to the projects you intend to support.

#### **Contact Information**

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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.*