

# Get Connected! Bridging the Gap Between Traditional Wisdom and Scientific Advancements

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## Background:

- Expanding the use of traditional knowledge, past being used just in humanities and worked into the sciences.
- Traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) is the knowledge gathered by indigenous peoples, forged from relations that spanned for millennia.
- Natural Resource management can benefit from including implementing TEK



Figure A. Indigenous youth going out in Tulalip Bay, learning from Indigenous fisherman about their sovereign fishing rights and how they can and are being used, Tulalip Tribes Fish Camp, 2023.

## Research Question:

What comes from bridging TEK and Western Sciences?

## Internship/Methods:

- Tulalip Tribes Natural Resources, worked alongside many departments, mainly with Educational outreach.
- Educational Outreach Fish Camp, summer indigenous youth camp.
- Interviews with Tribal community members and experts from Tulalip Tribes Natural Resources.
- Academic articles on systems with TEK and natural resource management systems together

## Results:



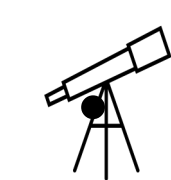
*Holistic perspective* – utilize all tools and knowledges.

- TEK offers more tools for western sciences to build from



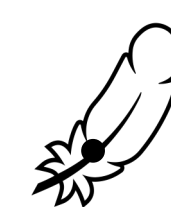
*Inclusivity* – allows more diverse thought.

- Indigenous community members push for cooperation.



*Local context from observation* – built from relations with the land.

- indigenous community members shared their vast of knowledge, specific to their tribes and families.



*Cultural preservation* – preserving knowledge and connection indigenous peoples have with the land.

### Requirements for a co-op system -

- Desire to work with one another and continue to create opportunities for cooperation.
- Acknowledged the need for a system that benefitted and protected both parties equally.



Figure c. Visual representation from interviews on the system and requirements needed for the bridging of TEK and SMK

## Results:(cont)

Case study – Fish Camp

- Activities that used TEK and promoted the importance of the envir.
- Created a familiarity with the environment for indigenous youth



Figure B. indigenous student, learning the importance of salmon and how to fillet it from an indigenous fisherman, Tulalip Tribes Fish Camp 2023.

## Broader Significance:

### First-hand -

- Safe space for Indigenous youth, furthering the connection with TEK and Western Sciences
- Gather the knowledge from the source and create more opportunities for indigenous communities to join.

### Larger scale benefits -

- TEK isn't the solution but can build off western sciences.
- Going into this with respect and willing to learn from indigenous peoples.

## Acknowledgment:

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