



słuk^walb ʔə ti dʒaladub

The Moons of the Year

Page #	tx̣ẉəlšucid	English
P. 1	słali ʔəst'əs.	January 'Good month' It is cold outside.
P. 2	swaq'waq' ʔuʔilalik ^w ti swaq'waq'.	February 'Frog' (The frogs croak during this month.) The frogs are croaking.
P. 3	pupuhig ^w əd ʔupuhig ^w əd.	March 'Gusts of blowing wind' (March is commonly a windy month in Western Washington.) The wind is blowing.
P. 4	pədǰ ^w iwaac ʔuǰ ^w iwaac tiit sł'iʔł'alqəb.	April 'Time of whistling' (The birds whistle.) The tree birds are whistling.
P. 5	pədč'aʔab ʔuč'aʔab čət ʔə tə c'abid.	May 'Time of digging' (This is when camas was commonly dug.) We are digging camas.
P. 6	pədstəg ^w əd ʔuk ^w ilid čət ti stəg ^w əd.	June 'Time of salmonberries' (The salmonberries are ready to harvest.) We are picking salmonberries.
P. 7	pədg ^w ədbix ^w ʔuk ^w ilid čət ti g ^w ədbix ^w .	July 'Time of blackberries.' (The blackberries are ready to harvest.) We are picking blackberries.
P. 8	pədt'aqa ʔuk ^w ilid čət ti t'aqa.	August 'Time of salalberries' (The salalberries are ready to harvest.) We are picking salalberries.
P. 9	pədk ^w əx ^w ic ʔutayil ti sk ^w əx ^w ic.	September 'Time of silver salmon' (The silver salmon are running.) The silver salmon are going upriver.
P. 10	pədx ^w ič'ib ʔux ^w ič'ib ti k ^w ag ^w ičəd.	October 'Time of elk mating call' (The male elk makes their mating calls.) The male elk is calling.



P. 11	pədł'x ^w ay? ʔutayil ti ł'x ^w ayʔ.	November 'Time of dog salmon/chum' (The dog salmon/chum are running.) The dog salmon/chum are going upriver.
P. 12	səx ^w šic'əlwaʔs ʔušic'əlwaʔs čəł.	December 'Sheathe your paddles' (The waters are generally too rough for traveling. Therefore, the paddles are sheathed, i.e., put away.) We are putting our paddles away.



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The terms for the months of year are just a small sampling of the several tx̣ẉəḷšucid terms speakers used to describe their seasons. The primary source of this data was taken from *Calendric Terms of Southern Puget Sound Salish* (Arthur C. Ballard. 1950).

The Lushotoseed vocabulary provided for the months of the year may be better understood as ‘seasons’ or ‘periods of time.’ These seasons are a very important part of Puyallup culture for knowing when to hunt and gather. Even though they do not strictly align with the Western view of the ‘months of the year,’ by identifying these seasons, elders have made an attempt to accommodate the Western perception of ‘twelve months’ in one year.

- Zalmi ʔəswəli Zahir