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**STAMP CANCELLATION**

**SEASIDE POST OFFICE OFFERS A SPECIAL STAMP CANCELLATION**

**DURING THE SALTMAKERS RETURN**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

**ASTORIA, OR – *The Saltmakers Return*** to Seaside February 17 – 19 as part of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Wintering Over programs. To help commemorate this event the United States Post Office is offering a special stamp cancellation on **Saturday, February 18, from 11 am to 2 pm**. Visitors to **The Saltmakers** encampment on the beach in Seaside can bring their own items for cancellation or purchase items offered by the U.S. Post Office and the Seaside Museum and Historical Society. **A Salt Works** stamp cancellation has been specially designed with cancellations taking place at the information tent. The Seaside Museum will also have cancelled products for sale at its Museum Store located at 570 Necanicum Drive, Seaside.

***The Saltmakers Return*** is a fun interactive learning opportunity for the whole family. Visitors to this 56-hour event are encouraged to talk and trade with members of the expedition while these soldiers are tending fires and boiling seawater to make salt.

It was here, exactly 200 years ago this winter, members of the Lewis and Clark Expedition had a salt making camp about 15 miles from their Fort Clatsop headquarters. The salt was obtained from seawater by boiling the water away and was needed for preserving and flavoring elk and deer meat. A few soldiers

at a time were stationed at this post near a Clatsop-Nehalem village in future Seaside, Oregon and the camp operated for about seven weeks from the first days of January until February 20, 1806. Approximately four bushels of salt were produced which the explorers calculated was enough for their winter here and the return river voyage to the United States.

***The Saltmakers Return*** takes place Friday through Sunday, February 17-19. Historical Interpreters set up a camp right on the beach at the end of Avenue U in south Seaside. They make salt from seawater 24 hours a day from 9:00 am Friday through 5:00 pm Sunday. From Highway 101 take Avenue U to the beach. From the Promenade in Seaside, walk south to where Avenue U meets the beach.

***The Saltmakers Return*** has received generous underwriting from the Kinsman Foundation, Meyer Memorial Trust, Autzen Foundation, the National Park Service Challenge Cost Share program, and the City of Seaside. Additional support is provided by the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial in Oregon, Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Association for Clatsop County, Oregon Historic Trails Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation, and Oregon Public Broadcasting.

For more information, call Lewis and Clark NHP, Fort Clatsop at (503) 861-2471, ext 214 or contact the Seaside Museum and Historical Society at (503) 738-7065 or visit [www.seasidemuseum.org](http://www.seasidemuseum.org).

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