



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Lewis and Clark National Historical Park



NEWS ADVISORY

Tuesday, March 21, 2006

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Port of Portland Lewis & Clark Nat'l Historical Park

**An Opening to Close: Port of Portland and National Park Service
Will Dedicate a New Historic Trail as Oregon's Celebration
of the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Comes to an End**

WHAT: Ribbon-cutting ceremony to dedicate the new Netul Trail built in partnership by the Lewis & Clark National Historical Park and the Port of Portland. The 1.5-mile trail enables visitors to follow in the footsteps of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark along the banks of the Lewis & Clark River, where wildlife such as bald eagles and river otters still abound. A group of 33 re-enactors will lead a procession to the path's end at the same canoe landing used by Lewis & Clark 200 years ago to the day to start their journey home from their winter at Ft. Clatsop.

WHO: Fran Mainella, Director, National Park Service
Bill Wyatt, Executive Director, Port of Portland

WHERE: **Fort Clatsop, ASTORIA**
The trail begins at the Fort Clatsop Visitor Center. The dedication site will be approximately 200 yards from the visitor center on the boardwalk and bridge next to the historic Canoe Landing.

WHEN: **Thursday, March 23, 2006**
11:30 a.m.

BACKGROUND: The trail dedication is part of the "Return Home" weekend commemorating the close of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial on the Pacific Coast. The Netul Landing runs just south of Fort Clatsop and is a relatively new addition to the park. Once a former log sort yard, Netul Landing provides views of wildlife along the Lewis and Clark River. Visitors can see the life sized sculpture of Sacagawea and use the interpretive panels that provide information on the Lewis and Clark Expedition and the Native Americans of the Lower Columbia River. Netul Landing also serves as a canoe/kayak launch for the Lower Columbia River Water Trail.

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