



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lewis and Clark National
Historical Park

503-861-2471 phone
503-861-2585 fax
superintendent_focl@nps.gov

Lewis and Clark National Historical Park News Release

November 7, 2005

Fort Clatsop Rebuild At Clatsop County Fairground

Contacts: Angela Sidlo, Fairgrounds Manager (503) 325-4600
Chip Jenkins, Superintendent (503) 861-4401

Clatsop County Oregon and the National Park Service announced today that the first part of the rebuilding of Fort Clatsop will occur at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds.

“The Clatsop County Fairgrounds are here to support the community,” said Angela Sidlo Fairgrounds Manager. “The Fairgrounds are here to help educate our kids, support community organizations, and celebrate our heritage. Rebuilding Fort Clatsop is a perfect fit for us.”

In 1954-55 community organizations built the first replica of Fort Clatsop. The first replica was initially constructed in a hanger at the Astoria Airport. The logs were then disassembled and sent to a plant to be treated with a wood preservative. Ultimately the logs were then assembled on the current site of Fort Clatsop. The NPS plan will follow this model, this time the initial construction occurring in the main arena at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds.

“I think this is the best place for us to work with the community on the fort rebuild,” said Chip Jenkins, Superintendent of the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park. “Fifty years ago the community built a great Fort Clatsop. We have the same goals and are following their model.”

From November 11 through 13 the Clatsop County Fairgrounds will be serving as the site for the Festival of the Pacific, a part of Destination: The Pacific, Lewis and Clark bicentennial. At the Festival of the Pacific people will find the Kids Corps Discovery Area, Lewis and Clark Garden, Native American performers, vendors, food and more.

NPS employees all with years of experience working on historic log structures will help organize community volunteers in building the new Fort Clatsop. The NPS plans to notch and fit the logs to create the exterior and interior walls of the fort and rafters for the ceilings at the Fairgrounds. The public will be invited to come and watch the work. The NPS is working to have staff and community volunteers on site to provide programs and answer questions.

“We hope people will come to the fairgrounds to watch the work.” said, Sidlo. “The fairgrounds will continue to play a central role in the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.”