



DECLARATION OF COOPERATION

Fort-to-the-Sea Trail Project

July 10 2003

Sponsored by
Fort Clatsop National Memorial
US National Park Service

Preface

The Fort-to-the-Sea Trail was designated an Oregon Solutions project by Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski in March 2003. The Governor has assured participation of his staff and appropriate state agencies with other partners through the designation of this effort as an Oregon Solutions project. It is expected that the creation of an Oregon Solutions Team for this project will help make efficient use of available resources, accelerate the pace of the project, overcome potential impediments early on, raise awareness of the project on a statewide level and bring effective partners to the table. In this fashion the Team will commit resources and time to an integrated action plan focused on a successful, sustainable project outcome.

Project Description

The objective of this project is to construct a trail from the Fort Clatsop National Memorial to Sunset Beach as part of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial to commemorate the historic trail Lewis and Clark took to reach the ocean from their shelter at Fort Clatsop. In order to complete the project, the Oregon Solutions Team needs to reach agreement on trail location, trail ownership, design, funding and construction, transportation solutions (as the trail crosses Hwy 101), and other economic and community implications. The signature events in Oregon for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial will occur in the Fall of 2005. The intent is for timely completion of the Trail by June 2005. Trail design and construction will need to start in 2003 and continue in 2004 to meet this objective.

State Representative Betsy Johnson and June Spence were appointed by Oregon Governor Kulongoski to convene the Oregon Solutions Team (Attachment A). The Team includes:

- Clatsop County
- Fort Clatsop National Monument, US National Park Service
- Governor's Community Solutions Office
- Northwest Community Solutions Team
 - Oregon Department of Transportation
 - Department of Environmental Quality
 - Oregon Economic and Community Development
 - Division of State Lands
 - Department of Land Conservation and Development
- Oregon Military Department (Camp Rilea)
- Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
- Trust for Public Lands
- Weyerhaeuser Corporation

The Oregon Congressional delegation has indicated support for land acquisition, and the Trail project, as indicated by the February 5, 2003, letter to Secretary Norton, Department of the Interior and follow-up discussions.

The Trail: Background Information

For approximately 15 years the US National Park Service (NPS) has been working with the local community and congressional delegation to identify an appropriate expansion of the Fort Clatsop National Memorial boundaries, developing relationships with landowners, and translating this proposed expanded boundary into Federal law. The Oregon delegation, led by Senator Smith, Senator Wyden and Congressman Wu spent a little over 2 years getting the boundary expansion passed in Congress. President Bush signed it into law in August 2002, just 9 months ago.

Part of this work was ensuring that properties ONLY from willing sellers were included within the boundary expansion. This was done for practical purposes, and relates directly to the NPS land acquisition authority since the NPS can ONLY buy land that is within the authorized boundary. As a result, there are 6 parcels within the boundary expansion authorized by Congress. All the owners continue to express a willingness to sell.

The Congressionally authorized expanded boundary includes private property that connects the trail from the existing Fort, across the property currently owned by Weyerhaeuser (to be purchased by NPS) and up to the Hwy 101 right of way directly across the entrance to Camp Rilea, a training facility owned and managed by the Oregon Military Department. The expanded Memorial boundary does not include any private property purchases or easements running south from the Rilea entrance, along either side of Highway 101.

Oregon Solutions
Fort-to-the-Sea Trail Agreements

The Oregon Solutions Team members recognize that the Trail has social, environmental and economic benefits. The Trail project will provide residents and visitors alike with historical and environmental interpretive experiences, including the opportunity to experience the forest and dunes that Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery passed through to reach the Pacific Ocean during their stay at Fort Clatsop in the winter of 1805-06. The expansion of Fort Clatsop National Memorial is a key tourism and economic development initiative for the region and the State of Oregon. Timely land acquisition and construction of the Fort-to-the-Sea Trail is imperative with the bicentennial celebration events scheduled for 2005.

These commitments represent a public statement of intent to participate in the project, to strive to identify opportunities and solutions whenever possible, to contribute assistance and support within resource limits, and to collaborate with other Team members in promoting the success of the project.

Clatsop County

Clatsop County has the ability to assist the project in a number of ways. The County Commissioners facilitated the park expansion in February by agreeing to pursue maintaining Sunset Beach in public ownership. The County staff will:

- Provide support for and information needed to assist with acquiring properties associated with the Fort Clatsop expansion and the trail alignment, and assist with any needed land use planning actions.
- Coordinate with the Trust for Public Lands in the sale of the Sunset Beach property to a public entity as outlined in the Resolution passed February 12, 2003. Assist the NPS and other Team members by streamlining necessary County permit processes wherever possible.



Commission Chair

6-23-03

Date

Fort Clatsop National Memorial, US National Park Service

The National Park Service staff commit to:

- Work to develop the Trail alignment, environmental and cultural assessments, design standards (including ADA considerations) and coordinate plans and specifications with OMD, ODOT, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, the Department of Environmental Quality and the Division of State Lands.
- Develop a Trail operation and maintenance plan and cooperative agreements with OMD, ODOT and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.
- Seek, through National Park Service budget process, funds to acquire approximately 1,300 acres of land from willing sellers, for the alignment of the Fort To Sea Trail.
- Provide trail head facilities at the Park Visitor Center.
- Coordinate with the Fort Clatsop Historical Association to acquire land, from willing sellers, to accomplish all of the above.
- Provide trail head facilities at the new Netul Landing (formerly known as the River Day Use Area). Coordinate with the Fort Clatsop Historical Association concerning construction on this site.



Superintendent, Fort Clatsop, NPS

July 10 2003

Date

Governor's Community Solutions Office

The Governor's Office can assist the project in a number of ways. The Governor and his staff have already provided letters, contacts, facilitation and other assistance. They will continue to assist the project by requesting state agencies to address issues presented by the project, and helping to assure that appropriate parties involved with other activities that may affect the Project are coordinated with the Project Team. The State of Oregon supports the movement of Sunset Beach into public ownership as a priority in conjunction with the County, and will continue to work closely with all parties to make this a reality.



Director

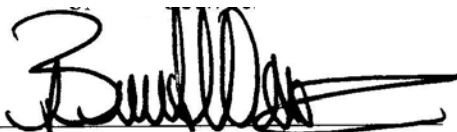
7/15/03

Date

Oregon Department of Transportation

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) can support the project in a number of ways. ODOT has already completed a preliminary design of a pedestrian tunnel to connect the trail under Highway 101. ODOT commits to:

- Pursue funding to complete design and construction of the pedestrian tunnel by June 2005.
- Continue to include consideration of Highway 101 vehicular traffic impacts and concerns at both the entrance to Camp Rilea and the Sunset Beach Road intersection in the on-going studies, planning and projects involving this section of the Highway.
- Work with NPS, State Parks and OMD to finalize the Trail alignment on the ODOT right of way between the entrance to Camp Rilea and the Pleasant View School Road.

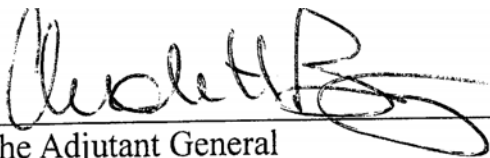

Director

6/17/03
Date

Oregon Military Department

The Oregon Military Department (OMD) agrees to host the Trail alignment between the existing Fort Clatsop National Monument and the Sunset Beach property. OMD commits to:

- Work to finalize a Trail alignment on the eastern and southern perimeters of Camp Rilea and maintains the operational integrity of the Camp's training mission.
- Participate in a cooperative agreement to route the trail along the perimeter of Camp Rilea.
- Pursue the purchase of additional properties that will be protective of the Camp Rilea boundary and supportive of the Trail project.
- Provide Innovative Readiness Training staff to construct the Trail including any crossings of streams, lakes or wetlands that may be needed along the alignment.
- Work with State Parks and ODOT regarding opportunities to align the trail on property that is currently privately owned between the existing Camp Rilea property line and Highway 101 (between the Camp entrance and Pleasant View School Road).
- Work with DEQ to evaluate the operation of the existing wastewater treatment facilities and make any needed adjustments to further ensure the safety of the Trail users.


The Adjutant General

16 July 2003
Date

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department agrees to:

- Work with Clatsop County, OMD and ODOT to negotiate and obtain property, easements or agreements to allow the trail to be connected with the Fort Clatsop National Memorial expansion and the Fort-to-the-Sea Trail alignment around the perimeter of Camp Rilea.
- Assist with Trail design and project development. This includes participating in, and supporting, a National and State Historic Park feasibility study and assisting with creating a thematic relationship between parks in Oregon and Washington associated with the Fort Clatsop expansion.
- Identify grants and other opportunities to acquire resources needed to complete the Trail.


Director

7/10/03
Date

Oregon Economic and Community Development Department

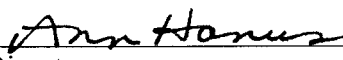
The Oregon Economic and Community Development Department administers a number of programs that have the potential to support the Trail. The Department will continue to track the Trail project and evaluate if these programs, or any new programs, can be used for assuring timely completion of the Trail.


Director

8/14/03
Date

Division of State Lands

The Division of State Lands will provide assistance in determining whether or not any wetlands or other waters are involved with the Trail alignments. The Division will also assist with pre-application meetings associated with any removal/fill permits that may be involved with the project.


Director

7/30/03
Date

Trust for Public Lands

The Trust for Public Lands commits to assist Clatsop County in the sale of the Sunset Beach property per the option and agreement between TPL and the County.

Ch. Beck 7/20/03
Date

Department of Environmental Quality

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) commits to:

- Work with Camp Rilea staff and the NPS to resolve any issues related to siting the Trail and the Camp’s wastewater treatment facilities.
- Expedite as possible the processing of permit applications, including fill/removal applications and applications for on-site septic systems that may be associated with the project.
- Provide technical assistance for other environmental or public health issues related to the Trail as appropriate.

Stephanie Hallock 7-15-03
Director Date

Weyerhaeuser Company

Weyerhaeuser Company supports the Fort Clatsop expansion and is a willing seller of property for the expansion as contemplated by the Fort Clatsop National Memorial Expansion Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-221 and in the letter dated September 1, 2000 from the National Park Service to Willamette Industries, Inc. The company would prefer to sell the property as soon as reasonably possible. Weyerhaeuser supports construction of the trail across the property when the National Park Service has entered into a purchase agreement with the company.

Greg Miller 7/14/03
Greg Miller, Manager Date
Oregon/California Government Affairs



Fort-to-the-Sea Trail Team Member Ground Rules

The Fort-to-the-Sea Project partners in the Oregon Solutions process committed to the following “ground rules” for how they conduct their business with one another in this collaborative process:

- “We recognize that the best solution depends upon cooperation by all entities at the table.”
- “We agree to meet with and involve other entities as needed to assure the continuity and finalization of the project.”
- “We recognize that each party has a unique perspective and contribution to make, and legitimate interests that need to be taken into account in the solution.”
- “We commit to openly expressing our ideas, potential contributions, and our concerns: no holding our cards close to the vest.”
- “We are willing to creatively explore potential mutual benefits and solutions: not simply settling on the first apparent answer.”
- “Everyone shares in the solution, everyone shares in the credit.”

Attachment A

Fort Clatsop-to-the-Sea Trail Oregon Solutions Project Team

Co-Conveners

State Rep. Betsy Johnson, H.D. 31	503 543-4046	betsy@betsyjohnson.com
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June Spence	503 861-2122	junes@charter.net

Fort Clatsop Memorial, National Park Service (U.S. Department of the Interior)

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Scott Stonum, Resource manager	503 861-4441	scott_stonum@nps.gov

Governor's Community Solutions Office

Robin Roberts	503 988-3962	Robin.Roberts@state.or.us
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Clatsop County

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Weyerhaeuser Co.

Greg Miller	503 588-0311	greg.miller@weyerhaeuser.com
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Trust for Public Lands

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Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

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Oregon Department of Transportation

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Oregon Military Department

Col. Mike Caldwell		
Stan Hutchison, Operation & Maint. Chief	503 584-3867	stanley.hutchison@or.ngb.army.mil
Major Dan Brewer, IRT program	503 584-2856	daniel.brewer@or.ngb.army.mil
Major Todd Farmer, Const. & Facilities	503 584-3863	todd.farmer@or.ngb.army.mil
Jerry Elliott, Envir Prog Mgr.	503 584-3868	Gerald.Elliott@or.ngb.army.mil
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Oregon Solutions staff:

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Fort-to-the-Sea Trail Resource Materials

In addition to the Declaration of Cooperation, these are some of the materials available for sharing with other entities to inform about the project and to help identify other resources for the project.

- Map of the Fort-to-the-Sea alignment
- Aerial photo of Sunset Beach
- Governor's letter to Interior Secretary Norton
- Oregon & Washington Congressional Delegation letter to Secretary Norton
- Lewis and Clark Trail brochure (printed by the National Park Service)

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