



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lewis and Clark National
Historical Park

92343 Fort Clatsop Road
Astoria, Oregon 97103

503-861-2471 phone
503-861-4428 fax

Lewis and Clark National Historical Park News Release

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Contact(s): Cathy Peterson
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Birding Weekend Events at Fort Clatsop

Join us at Lewis and Clark National Historical Park Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 16-17, for a weekend of birding. Events both days are free.

Bring your family, friends and binoculars to Fort Clatsop and participate in the 11th annual Great Backyard Bird Count. The count, an international event created and sponsored by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, lets citizen scientists – you – record and contribute valuable information about how the distribution and abundance of birds are changing through time.

In 2007, participants in the United States and Canada submitted a record-breaking 80,000 checklists to the count's online site, www.birdcount.org. Your list, short or long, helps.

Throughout the weekend at Fort Clatsop, visitors can learn how to participate in the count, record bird numbers in the park and make plans to do counting in their own backyards. Events Saturday at the park include two programs with local birding expert Mike Patterson, "Beginning Birding" at 10 a.m. and "Winter Birds of Clatsop County" at 1 p.m. Bird walks will follow each program.

On Sunday, Sharnelle Fee, director of the Wildlife Center of the North Coast, will speak at 1 p.m. Fee founded the Wildlife Center of the North Coast nine years ago, offering people who find injured wildlife in the area a helpful resource. Fee will bring some of the center's education animals to the program such as an owl, a common murre, a northern fulmar, and pelicans. Her program will cover some of the dangers that wildlife face in this area, the work of the Wildlife Center of the North Coast and how people can help local wildlife.

There will be ranger led opportunities for visitors to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count in the park throughout the weekend. A variety of bird field guides are available for purchase at the Lewis & Clark National Park Association bookstore in the Fort Clatsop visitor

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center.

All talks will be held in the Netul River Room of Fort Clatsop's visitor center. Park hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

The weekend's birding events are sponsored by the Lewis & Clark National Park Association and Destination: the Pacific and the National Park Service, with assistance from the NPS Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Challenge Cost Share Program.

For more information, call the park at (503) 861-2471.

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