

West Australian Railscene e-Mag

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West Australian Railscene e-Mag is published weekly by Jim Bisdee on rail happenings on West Australian railroads

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The up hill down dale nature of many of the wheat line branches is illustrated here with P2506 & P2501 running 5323 empty wheat train south of Dalwallinu going north to McLevie to load on February 11th. Photo Don Copley

A transport forum attended by some 300 people was held in Bruce Rock on February 16th to discuss the Strategic Grain Network Review was chaired by WA Farmers Federation, involved WestNet Rail, CBH, producers SGNR, Local Government Association, Department of Transport, couple of politicians amongst others. Final outcome of the forum was that the recommendations of the SGNR were rejected and all current grain lines be not only kept open but be upgraded. Other points the Quairading line to remain open and be reopened back to Bruce Rock and upgraded is far shorter direct route to Kwinana, Kulin line wheat runs wrong way as is shorter to run to Albany than Kwinana, CBH is open to tendering out of grain contracts on rail to compete against ARG.

AD1521 and P2508 ran 6313 empty wheat train to Piawanning on Miling line February 19th, while AD1520 & P2516 ran 4313 again to Piawanning on 24th, with P2516 & AD1520 running 6313 onto Miling line on 26th.

SCT service 5MP9 with return 1PM9 the only daylight SCT service departing Forrestfield 1750 on Sunday evening that was seen as pre Christmas overload service continues to run well after Xmas now with about 20 odd QR National flat cars running on the service in each direction. By using SCT services 5MP9/1PM9 this allows QR National to run three intermodal services per week in each direction between Melbourne and Forrestfield.



RA212 stabled on rail train in Albany Yard on February 18th next to P2511 stabled on woodchip train this would be RA212 first visit ever to Albany even as RA1917 it never ran on the GSR. Photo Stew Winston



P2506 & P2501 run 5323 empty wheat train on February 11th north of Pithara the can be seen in the distance up the grade on the Dalwalinu line that will see this train load at McLevie just outside town. Photo Don Copley



QR National 6007, 6006 & CLF4 on 7AP1 QR National intermodal service stand in #3 long arrivals in Forrestfield yard awaiting departure on February 13th.

Photo Evan Jasper



6007, 6006 & CLP13 run QR National intermodal 7AP1 with all locomotives in yellow and black QRN livery through Middle Swan with Cook fuel and water on lead of intermodal COFC on February 20th.

Photo Alex Mackay



P2508, AD1520 & AB1502 run 4366 wheat train of block XW grain wagons through Kenwick on February 10th with another load for the CBH export complex at Kwinana. Photo Alex Mackay



No locomotive would have been painted in Westrail orange livery for over 15 years but in 2010 it was possible to see P2504 & AB1502 in orange run 1312 wheat train through Woodbridge on February 14th. Photo Alex Mackay

RA212 departed Albany on February 20th after dropping further rail and recovering some rail in Kendenup area on February 19th. RA212 ran rail train from Wagin to Lake Grace on February 20th that sees RA212 operate to another part of the system it never did as RA1917.

Five water tankers and five fuel tankers to Cook again ran on 7PA1 QR National intermodal on February 20th with 4AP1 QRN intermodal hauling the empty tankers back to Forrestfield on February 26th. The fuel and two water tankers were stored at what was temporary intermodal yard Forrestfield on 27th.

NJ1602 has been stored out of service recently at Albany with NJ1605 still undergoing repair at Forrestfield workshops. P2511 has been hauling the loaded woodchip train from mill to port unloader with DD2359 hauling the empty train to the mill.



Lightly laid gravel ballasted Corrigin Bruce Rock line is in the background while Bruce Rock to Quairading line is to the right of pile of dirt there has been a call for this line to be reopened. Photo Matt Hooper

AC4304 & AC4302 with 63 empty ore cars AC4305 further 63 empty ore cars ran 5420 out of Esperance on night of February 25th that was loaded at Koolyanobbing on 26th then running 6415 loaded ore train to Esperance arriving early hours of 27th this was an AC class DPU train all previous trails have been Q class.

AB1503 ran 4458 light engine movement from Avon Yard Northam to Merredin on February 24th to have three locomotives allocated to West Merredin.