

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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LZ3119, LZ3114, ACA6009, ACA6005 & Q4012 at Midland on very late 3032 ore following failure adding Q4012 from 2426 freight, having LZ3119 and LZ3114 run to rescue service 4/12. Photo Sean McGarraghy

WAMX3309 was railed at North Port Fremantle December 3rd then hauled by CBH120 to Gemco Forrestfield for commissioning. CBH121 ran light engine ex Gemco to CBH Kwinana 7/12 to enter service.

Fortescue Mining opened its 130km line to Solomon Hub on December 1st with SD70ACe 701 and further SD70ACe hauling first 240 wagon train of 23,000 tonnes of iron ore from its yet unfinished Firetail pit. The train ran out of the loadout before invited guests that included traditional owners, number of school children and employees. This new line branches off about 175km from Port Hedland then heads west for 130km to Solomon in Hamersley Ranges having 3 billion tonne reserves of high grade iron ore that is only 60km north of Mt Tom Price. Firetail ore production will reach 20 million tons pa in March 2013 to be followed by Kings deposit 5km away coming on stream that will have a 40mtpa production giving a 60mtpa with FMG reaching its 155mtpa by end of 2013. This production coincides with duplication of first 120km of track out of Port Hedland, together with expansion of unloading facilities at Port Elliott and increased rail yard capacity being undertaken at new Kanyirri Yard near original Rowley Yard.



NR67, XRB561 & NR104 on 2MP5 intermodal at Parkston on December 5th.

Photo Peter Donaghy



XRB561 at western fuelling point at Parkeston December 5th.

Photo Peter Donaghy



CBH118 on 2S65 empty Watco grain at Kewdale passing 8033 shunting December 3rd. Photo Simon Barber



AC4306 & AC4301 with AC4302 & Q4017 DPU on 1413 ore train accelerating away from Bonnie Vale weighbridge on December 2nd . Photo Peter Donaghy



6027 with Aurizon logos & 6021 on late 2MP1 QRN intermodal at Middle Swan 2/12. Photo Simon Barber



P2501, DFZ2403 & P2503 on empty Perenjori ore train at Beachlands on 6/12. Photo Stewart Whiteaker



6023, LDP005 & 2821 on 6PM1 QRN intermodal at West Kalgoorlie 30/11.

Photo Peter Donaghy



6023 passes identical unit ACB4403 in West Kalgoorlie yard November 30th.

Photo Peter Donaghy



DBZ2304 on empty alumina train waiting to enter Alumina Junction Pinjarra 24/11. Photo Trevor Hamilton



DD2359 on empty caustic tankers at Burekup November 24th.

Photo Brian Cherry



S3302 climbing the grade out of Benger with alumina train to Bunbury November 24th. Photo Brian Cherry



DD2358 & DD2355 on 7866 empty caustic tankers at Brunswick November 24th.

Photo Brian Cherry



ACN4144 & ACN4147 on 1763 Karara ore train coming off the Mullewa line at Narngulu November 25th.



ACN4148 hauling 2762 empty ore train from Port of Geraldton back to Narngulu East with ACN4144 & ACN4147 on the rear following unloading November 26th.

Both photos Phil Melling



CBH008 & CBH007 on empty Watco grain to Bunjil climbing grade through Bringo December 1st.



CBH008 named Tenindewa & CBH007 on empty grain train passing through Tenindewa December 1st on way to Bunjil first CBH grain train to run on this line in a couple of years1/12. Both photos Phil Melling



NR25, XRB562 & NR56 on 6PM7 express departing West Kalgoorlie December 1st. Photo Peter Donaghy



BRS225 rebuilt following shunting accident at Port Augusta at West Kalgoorlie December 1st note there are now no rivets on this former Spirit of Progress car the in repaired area. Photo Peter Donaghy



6027 & 6023 on 3MP1 QRN intermodal at Midland December 2nd.

Photo Brian Cherry



Strings of original 47kg rail recently replaced with 60kg plant as part of EGR upgrading laid out waiting recovery December 2nd.

Photo Peter Donaghy



NR26 on 1PA8 Indian Pacific passing under out of gauge detector Midland 2/12.

Photo Brian Cherry



WAMX3309 being hauled by CBH120 on 2S69 light engine movement from North Port Fremantle to Gemco Forrestfield at Kenwick Junction December 3rd.

Photo Simon Barber



ACN4141 & ACN4171 on 7765 loaded ore ACN4146 DPU with Koolanooka Hills/ore mine in background on Karara Tilley line December 1st. Photo Phil Melling



Loading on intermodal trains is not all containers often other things like forklifts here on 60' flat wagon with 20' ISO container on 2MP5 at Parkeston December 6th. Photo Peter Donaghy



Q4019, Q4012 & dead Q4011 on 2426 freight at West Kalgoorlie December 3rd.

Photo Peter Donaghy



NR25, XRB562 & NR56 on 6PM7 crossing over from eastern fuelling point on the loop to main line as it departs Parkeston for Adelaide December 1st.

Photo Peter Donaghy



P2503, DFZ2406 & P2510 on 7723 Perenjori ore train at Pintharuka December 1st.

Photo Phil Melling



NR55 & NR79 on 4P32 empty rail wagons to Kewdale at Woodbridge December 5th.

Photo Jim Bisdee



CBH120 hauls WAMX3309 on 3S69 light engine movement at Kewdale 3/12.

Photo Jim Bisdee



ACN4147 & ACN4144 on 7763 ore climbing the grade thru Mullewa December 1st.

Photo Phil Melling



Dive for Fremantle line tunnel taking shape in Perth as construction continues 26/11. Photo Dr Paul Collin



NR31, XRB562 & NR50 on 6PM7 express cresting the grade at 628km December 8th. Photo Peter Donaghy



MA1862 stabled in Leighton yard with rail train being used on Butler extension 3/12. Photo Jim Bisdee



Area of Authority changeover point between South and EGR control west of Binduli. Photo Peter Donaghy



NR44, DL48 & NR49 on 2MP5 intermodal at South Guildford November 15th. Photo Sean McGarraghy



C BH120 runs 2S69 light engine to North Port to attach WAMX3309 December 3rd. Photo Jim Bisdee



Stabled CBH121 being bypassed by VL357 & VL361 at CBH Kwinana December 8th. Photo John Bollans



NR73, NR47 & AN3 on 7MP7 express descending the Parkeston grade December 9th. Photo Peter Donaghy



Q4004 & Q4014 on 7410 acid tankers ex Hampton at Binduli December 9th.

Photo Peter Donaghy



S3309 & S3302 on empty caustic tankers departing Burekup loop December 8th.

Photo Brendan Cherry

In December 2012 FMG will have 700 kms of track and in early 2013 operating 11 trains per day with ore trains running out of Cloudbreak, Christmas Creek and Solomon mines. With the delivery of 11 SD70ACe locomotives in January 2013 FMG will have 43 locomotives [with two further SD70ACe on order], 3000 ore cars, 30 fuel tankers and 47 ballast hoppers. An Integrated Train Control System with GPS tracking and train orders being issued by digital communications is in process of being introduced.



LZ3119, LZ3114, ACA6009, ACA6005 & Q4012 on late 2032 ore at Woodbridge 4/12. Photo Jim Bisdee

This is the 222nd and final edition of West Australian Railscene e-Mag over the past few months it has become a tedious chore to produce this e-Mag. The fun has gone out of producing it and the e-Mag is suffering. Nearly everything is now considered “commercial in confidence” and obtaining accurate information is becoming very difficult. I have never wanted to peddle rumours or the gripes of disgruntled employees and have tried to the best of my ability to provide accurate information. It has been an incredible journey over the last four years in producing 222 e-Mags. So many people have helped me in Australia, Canada and USA it’s not possible to list them all here. It has enabled me to publish hundreds of photos of trains running in this huge state and of photos of WA interest in every other Australian state also photos of locomotives for WA being built overseas, tested, delivered to docks and loaded on ships. My thanks to everyone who has helped me with photos or information for without you this e-Mag would have never been possible. All things must pass and all things must end it is now time for this incredible journey to end. Thanks for the memory. Jim Bisdee publisher

END page 22 of 22