

West Australian Rails

NUMBER....11-02

Special Pilbara edition covering all northwest railroads

All photos courtesy Richard [Toad] Montgomery

Publisher: Jim Bisdee

E-Mail: pm1225@bigpond.com

Copyright Jim Bisdee © 2014



FMG SD70ACe 721 & 709 on empty ore train crossing Turner River Bridge November 23rd.

A further set of photos of railroad operations on the remote Pilbara mines trains in north west of this state centred on Port Hedland for BHP Billiton Iron Ore, Fortescue Ming Group and presently under construction Roy Hill Railroad with Rio Tinto at Dampier and Cape Lambert. These are 24/7 operations with empties running to the mines to be loaded and running to the port car dumpers where the ore is then loaded onto ships for export to customers in Asia and Europe. Most of the locomotives in use in this region are US built CW44-9W, ES44DCi or SD70ACe that were imported new. Some rebuilt second hand SD9043MAC from the US and remanufactured Australian built CM40-8M are still in service, with the -8s being steadily withdrawn as new SD70ACes arrive on BHPBIO.



FMG 901 SD90MAC locally re-motored with 16-710 4300hp engine running light engine to port 7/11.



FMG General Electric 44-9CW 005 & 001 crossing Turner River Bridge with an empty ore train on 23/11.



7050, 8126 & 8173 on loaded ore train at 14km peg on Robe River Cape Lambert line November 24th.



7056, 7083 & 8175 on empty "J Train" near Archers on way to Mesa J mine near Pannawonica 24/11.



EVOS [ES44DCi] 8103, 8163 & 8167 on loaded sit at Archers waiting line clear to Cape Lambert 24/11.



Empty to Pannawonica ore about to cross loaded ore at Archers November 24th



BHPBIO EMD SD70ACe 4321 & 4314 on loaded ore train holding West Mainline at Bing November 7th.



4407 & 4327 mid train helpers on loaded at Mooka Staging Facility waiting to run to Nelson Point 7/11.



Mooka Staging Facility with loaded trains waiting admittance to Nelson Point unloaders 7/11.



Mooka Staging Facility with new ore car repair shop under construction November 7th.



4411 & 4310 [now stored] remote units on loaded ore rake at Mooka Staging Facility November 7th.



SD70ACe 4314 & CM40-8M 5654 on a loaded ore approaching Boodarie on November 7th.



44-9CW 015 & 008 on empty ore rake rounding curve at 5km peg after leaving port unloaders 7/11.



SD70ACe 721 & 709 on empty ore train at Chapman on November 23rd.



44-9CW 014 & SD70ACe 702 at 94km Durack with loaded ore train November 23rd.



Roy Hill line grade crossing on Wodgina Road looking east to FMG crossing in the distance 23/11.



44-9CW 005 & 001 on an empty ore train at Canning on November 23rd.



CFCLA CM40-8 CD4303 on a ballast train running north at Wodgina Road on the Roy Hill line 23/11.



CFCLA CD4303 on lead with CD4301 on rear at Wodgina Road on way to 88km to ballast to 84 km 23/11.



CFCLA CM40-8M CD4301 on rear Roy Hill ballast train at Wodgina Road crossing November 23rd.



BHPBio SD70ACe 4392 & 4309 [only one of two original units remaining in service] on empty Mooka 23/11.



Original SD70ACe 4309 trailing 4392 on empty ore train just north of Mooka November 23rd.



SD70ACe 4433 & CM40-8 5637 at head end of empty ore train south of Bing November 23rd.



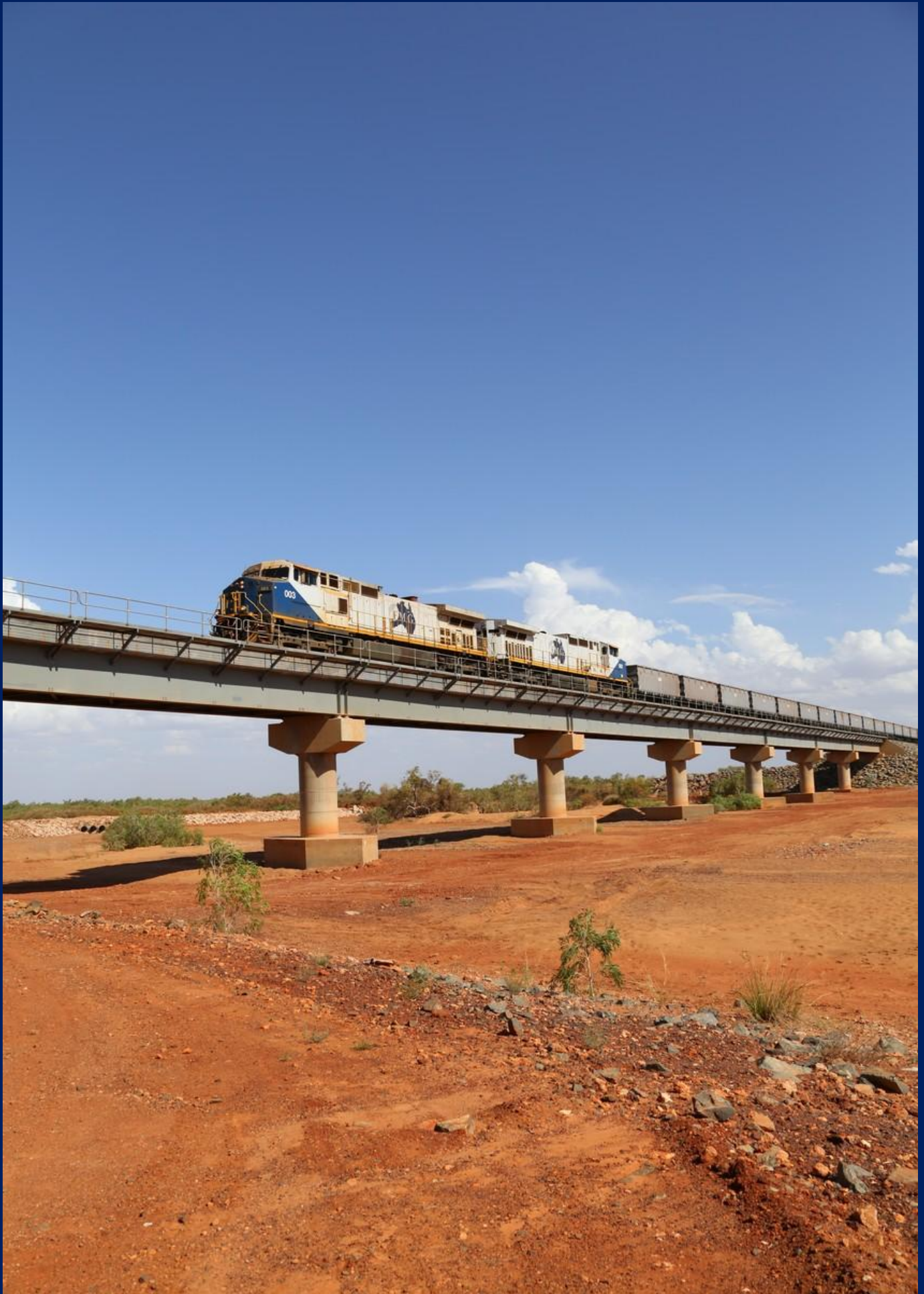
SD9043MAC 909 & 44-9CW 004 on empty at 5km curve with two compressor cars behind locos 22/11.



SD70ACe 716 & 706 running light engine from port to Kanyirri Yard to refuel November 22nd.



44-9CW 009 & SD9043MAC 909 shunt compressor car CC005 front and CC002 on rear back to port 22/11



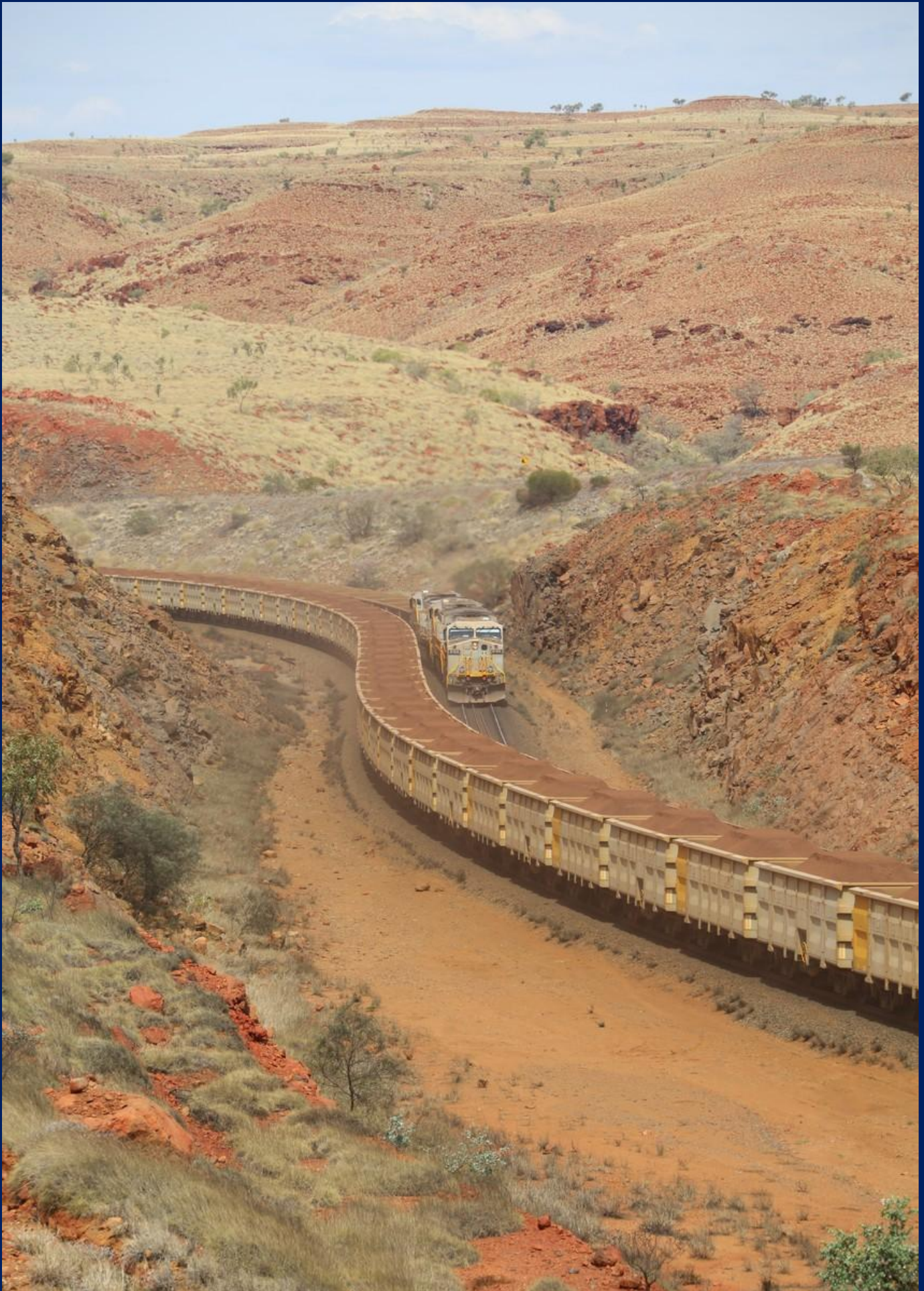
44-9CW 003 & 002 crossing dry river bed of East Turner River on loaded ore to port 25/11.



SD70ACe 4386 & CM40-8 5667 on empty ore at 1.6km crossing Finucane Island on way to Boodarie 22/11.



SD70ACe 4349 & 4344 on empty ore train at 1km Fimucane Island November 22nd.



Empty and loaded ore train cross at Bensons Falls on Rio Tinto Tom Price line November 24th.



8116 on Autohaul train with six pairs of empty ore cars descending grade at Benson Falls on 24/11.



8116 with six pairs of empty ore cars testing automatic operation near Gecko November 24th.



44-9CW 7070 & 7044 split signals at Greenpool on Cape Lambert line November 24th.



7056 on empty J train at Greenpool crosses 7055 leading loaded ore to Cape Lambert November 24th.



ES44DCi 8120, 8168 & 8179 on loaded in full dynamic descending the grade at Bensons Falls 24/11.



8143, 7053 & 7057 on loaded descending grade at Bensons Falls November 24th.



7097 "Ken Onley", 9102 & 7076 on empty climbing up Cichester Range at Bensons Falls 24/11.



8180, 8198 & 8111 on empty ore climbing grade at Bensons Falls November 24th.



8120, 8168 & 8179 on loaded ore at North West Coastal grade crossing Dampier November 24th.
