

West Australian Railscene e-Mag

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Withdrawn SD40R 3092 in BHPBIO livery with SD40-2 3084 and 3083 still in undercoat the colours they wore in service stand on old loop at Finucane Island on July 16th. Photo Phil Melling

Increased iron ore train services from Cliffs mine at Koolyanobbing to port of Esperance commence on August 2nd that sees ore trains increase from four to five sets operating between the mine and port. This increase in iron ore traffic coincides with the new crossing loops opening at Gibson between Fleming and Esperance on August 2nd and Beckwith crossing loop between Koolyanobbing and Stewart on July 29th. All train paths on the Esperance line have been revamped including Esperance freighter.

Re-railing is proceeding on Esperance line having now reached 147km peg.

DB2311 is now under overhaul at ARG Forrestfield workshop that leaves DB2309 as the last DB class locomotive to be overhauled and the only DB still in old Westrail orange livery

All new AC4300 locomotives except AC4307 have undergone a mainline builders trail following AC4308 running its works trial with AC4304 and 2208 on July 27th.



QR National Cv43aci 6002 is believed will run QR intermodal trains across the continent here with similar ARG AC4308, AC4304, AC4302 in United Group Rail yard Broadmeadow July 30th. Photo Brad Coulter



AC4302 showing where steel panels have been removed from long hood under radiators and are being substituted with aluminium panels in effort to reduce the locomotives weight July 30th. Photo Brad Coulter



Fortescue Mining Group General Electric CW44-9 locomotive 013 is yard shunter at FMG unloader and port at southern end of Port Hedland harbour on July 16th.

Photo Phil Melling



FMG 009 and 012 run empty ore train out of out of unloader is about to cross Great Northern Highway at Boodarie on its return to FMG yard for servicing July 16th.

Photo Phil Melling



SD70MACel/c 4302 with over 4 decades old SD40R 3094 & 3097 run empty BHPBIO iron ore train out of Bing yard south of Port Hedland on run to mines to collect another load of ore July 14th. Photo Phil Melling

AC4304 has now had flag decals applied with Australian flag on one side and WA state flag on other like AC4302 so far these are the only two locomotives have had this applied. BC

Pacific National grain trains still run from Parkes to CBH Merredin to load with another operating last week.

G515 has been repaired and returned on 1MP9 behind SCT006 & SCT010 in early hours of July 22nd.

G515 returned to Kalgoorlie on 5025 freight LZ3120, G515 & SCT003 on July 30th with G515 again running as remote unit on iron ore trains to Esperance from July 31st.

Rail Safety Week ran from July 26th to August 2nd with emphasis on dangers of pedestrians jumping closed gates to race for a train and the reported 50 serious near misses between cars and trains at level crossings each year. A further \$20 million will be spent on rail level crossing improvements 2009-10 but 804 of the states 1251 level crossings will still only have passive protection being stop and give way signs.