

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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DFZ2405, DFZ2404, DFZ2401 & P2507 on 3720 ore train trial of 108 empty wagon climbs the grade at Ambania on April 13th on its way to Perenjori.

Photo Phil Melling

In order to undertake a number of tests in relation to the operation and train dynamics of running a long and heavy iron ore train on the undulating line from Geraldton to Perenjori a trial of 108 AHCF wagon empty ore wagons was conducted on April 13th. This trial involved the use of three DFZ units running in multiple with P2507 running but off line on run from Geraldton to Perenjori and return to Ruvidini where train was split for a further trial. The DFZ units DFZ2401, DFZ2404 & DFZ2405 and 90 ore wagons were detached being loaded during night then in early hours of 14th tests for starting train and braking were undertaken on number of grades between Ruvidini and Narngulu. This train then ran to Port of Geraldton to unload.

Track work on the dual gauge down main in vicinity of Kalamunda and Roe Highway Bridges saw wrong line running and train order working in place between Forrestfield and Cockburn on April 8th through 11th.

QR National has commenced new intermodal service 2MP1 that departs Melbourne on Monday arrives at Forrestfield on Thursday departing Forrestfield on Friday and arriving back in Melbourne on Monday. 6007 & CLP1 ran the first 2MP1 in on April 15th and return east as 6PM1 on April 16th.



DFZ2405, DFZ2404, DFZ2401 & P2507 on 3720 on the huge empty trial ore train with one part ascending the grade, another descending while and the last part ascending at Nola on April 13th. Photo Phil Melling



DFZ2401, DFZ2404 & DFZ2405 unloading 90 wagon ore train at Geraldton on April 14th following trials on return including adhesion tests using water from containers on front of DFZ2401. Photo Phil Melling



DFZ2406 on McAleese Transport low loader inching past gate house at QR Redbank workshop as it departs on its long return journey across Australia to ARG WA on April 12th. Photo Allan Ward



DFZ2406 departing Redbank as it runs down a suburban street and works its way towards a highway on April 12th, this view of DFZ2406 will also be encountered by numerous motorists. Photo Allan Ward



P2517 & P2516 on 1759 empty wheat train on April 11th running through Muchea and passing crossing loop that still contains a cripple road.

Photo Brendan Cherry



DBZ2310 lead unit on 5273 lime and empty coal train crosses DAZ1902 & DBZ2312 on 5556 export coal train of former QR woodchip wagons at Wellard on March 25th.

Photo Murray Rowe



P2508, AD1521 & AD1520 on 4362 wheat train at Minnivale on April 7th in typical undulating country where some of the train is ascending while other parts are descending.

Photo Simon Barber



DAZ1902 & DBZ2312 long end cab to cab run 5556 export coal train northbound towards Wellard crossing loop and cross with southbound 5273 on March 25th.

Photo Murray Rowe



AB1504 loads 4494 wheat train under power at Trayning in the late afternoon of April 7th this line whose services were suspended last year again sees use but not for much longer. Photo Simon Barber



Loading 4496 wheat train after dark at CBH Trayning a fast loading bin on April 7th a typical scene at many wheatbelt facilities but not much longer here on a line slated for closure. Photo Simon Barber



DAZ1905, DD2359 & NJ1605 on 4376 empty wagon movement of 15 XO and XOA woodchip wagons to run through RailBam at South Guildford on April 7th. Photo Alex Mackay



DBZ2303 runs 6325 empty wheat train through Thornlie on April 9th on its return run to Avon yard it will then run out onto the wheat lines to load. Photo Brendan Cherry

Friday night AFL game was held at Subiaco on April 16th commencing at 1840 just after peak period ended so there were no pre game extra football services but extra services ran after the game finished.

Its overhaul completed and repainted into ARG [QR] yellow livery S3309 was released to traffic on April 16th. S3309 was the only S class that had been painted in ARG [G&W] red livery.

DD2359 that had run woodchip trains at Albany since March 2009 returned to Forrestfield on April 7th for service in workshop was released on April 16th returning to operations in South West.



LZ3111 runs 6158 Kwinana shunter through Thornlie in early morning on April 9th this train arrives as part of overnight freight from Kalgoorlie.

Photo Brendan Cherry

Gindalbie Metals announced on April 12th it has signed a long term agreement with QR's national bulk freight business to haul its iron ore from Karara mine to Geraldton. This agreement is expected to lead to a 10 year rail haulage contract to Port of Geraldton for export of iron ore initially from Morawa then following building an 85km line east from Tilley siding Karara mine.
