



The Beltline

On the Web at www.nattrackers.org

Official Newsletter of the National Capital Trackers

2022, no. 7, issued August 2022

(there was no July issue)

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NCT Club News

Monthly Membership Meetings are every month on the Third Thursday. Members may attend in person at Green Acres Center in Fairfax or on Zoom.

Aug 18, 2022 07:00 PM

Sep 15, 2022 07:00 PM

Oct 20, 2022 07:00 PM

Nov 17, 2022 07:00 PM

Upcoming Shows:

~~Greenberg Train Show, Dulles Expo Center, Aug 20-21~~ **NO SPACE FOR NCT**,
Contact Rick E,

Kensington Armory, Sept. 10-11, Contact Don H.

A photo of Bernie & Lyn Gross' home layout is featured in the latest "Classic Toy Trains!"

Lionel Classic Hits 70

The “Super Speedliner” set of 1952 introduced the 2500-series of extruded aluminum passenger cars, modeled after the stainless steel Budd cars from Santa Fe’s premier trains. Until these cars were released hobbyists paired their scale-sized F3s with passenger cars from American Model Trains (AMT).



New Look for UP, from Trains magazine via Google News

C45ACCTE No. 5395 shows a different version of Union Pacific’s paint scheme at Anaheim, Calif., on July 18, 2022. (Bruce Jacobs)

A new Union Pacific locomotive paint scheme has surfaced, although it is unclear whether the design represents a change, a test, or a one-off for some other purpose. Photographer Bruce Jacobs photographed the ES44AC — a C45ACCTE in UP terminology — in Anaheim on July 18. Differences from the current standard UP scheme include a small American flag on the short hood instead of a large flag over the engine, the return of the more traditional “Union Pacific” lettering on the long hood, and a larger UP shield, without wings, on the nose.

Side view of yellow and gray locomotive with red trim



Big Boy 4014 Heads Out



The world's largest steam engine is heading out on a roundtrip tour between Wyoming and Colorado.

Union Pacific's famed Big Boy No. 4014 will depart Cheyenne on Thursday, July 28 and will be on display Friday, July 29 in the Mile High City. Big Boy will be on display and available for public viewing at Denver's Union Station on Friday between 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The massive steam locomotive was built in the 1940s to conquer mountains while carrying equipment during World War II. The tour is to honor Union Pacific's 160th anniversary and the historical role railroads serve in America.

The Cheyenne-based Big Boy No. 4014 was last in Denver in September 2021 on a tour of seven Colorado cities. The Union Pacific Museum will also host a special passenger trip from Denver to Cheyenne, pulled by No. 4014, on Saturday, July 30. The excursion is the annual gala fundraiser for the nonprofit Union Pacific Museum and is a rare opportunity for the public to travel on this historic heritage equipment.

"Both the communities of Denver and Cheyenne have a rich history that goes almost as far back to the foundation of Union Pacific Railroad," said Scott Moore, senior vice president – Corporate Relations and chief administrative officer.

"We are disappointed we cannot have our longer Big Boy tour this year but rekindling our great history with Denver and the Cheyenne Frontier Days rodeo will give us an opportunity to share No. 4014 with the public in 2022."

Big Boy No. 4014 was delivered to Union Pacific in December of 1941, built to cross the Wasatch Mountain Range east of Ogden, Utah. Union Pacific said No. 4014 was retired in 1961 after traveling a little over a million miles, reacquired by Union Pacific in 2013 and restored to service in 2019.

Twenty-five Big Boy locomotives were built for Union Pacific, No. 4014 is the world's only functioning Big Boy.

Story by Alexander Kirk, KUSA News 9. Denver

Roanoke Sunset



Union Pacific replaces 110-year-old rail bridge in two days, from Railway Track & Structures, via Google News

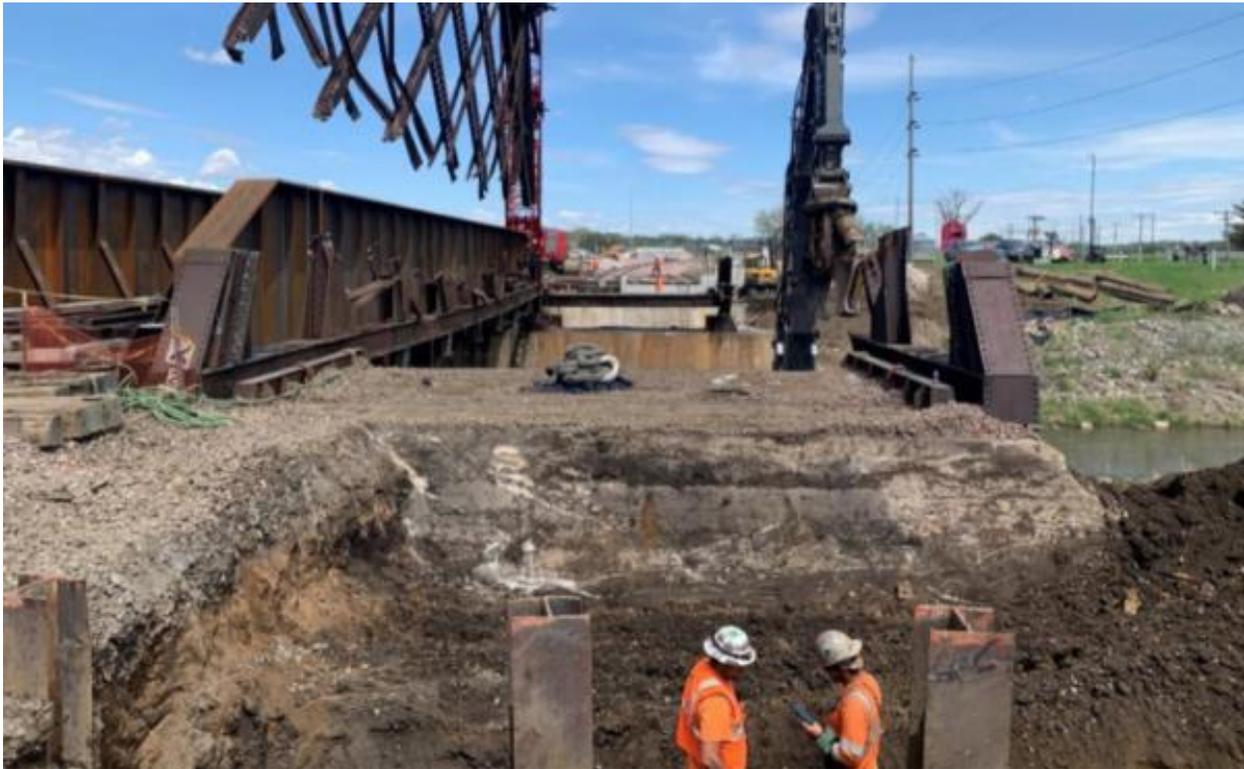


Replacing a 110-year-old bridge in 48 hours is an ambitious task no matter who you ask; accomplishing it in 30 hours deserves a major acknowledgement. A cross-functional Union Pacific team recently did just that in Iowa.

Spanning the East Boyer River on UP's main line, the Denison, Iowa, bridge was originally a 170-ft-long double track bridge containing a through truss span. The project replaced the old bridge with a 203-ft-long double track bridge with a through plate girder span.

“Over the long term, the new bridge will reduce maintenance needs, helping to sustain velocity across this corridor,” said Chris Gust, director, Bridge Maintenance and Construction, Engineering, at UP.

It took some sizeable equipment to support the task. Multiple cranes, including a towering 650-ton crane, assisted in the demolition and heavy lifting. The new main span was slid over into place by heavy-duty jacks and rollers. Meanwhile, tampers and ballast regulators were used to surface the newly constructed track.



As employees were hard at work, other UP teams strategized to keep freight moving and took the opportunity to continue strengthening the railroad's infrastructure.

Methodically rerouting trains to match train schedules and crew resources was the handiwork of the Harriman Dispatching Center, while Maintenance-of-Way employees used the empty tracks to perform necessary maintenance. Overall, the coordination effort lessened the replacement's impact on UP's network.

Gust emphasizes the team effort and coordination required to achieve the task and appreciates the hard work and strategic thinking of various bridge, track, signal and dispatching teams.

“These employees made this project successful through extensive planning, communication, coordination, and execution,” Gust said. “Our folks showcased and applied their craft-specific knowledge and dedication to work as a team.”

Railfanning at the Folkston (Ga.) Funnel (video link)

Located between Waycross and Jacksonville, nearly all East Coast traffic goes past. Note the Lionel-style station observation platform and Chessie bay window caboose about minute 9:30.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Zb6qljyf_w

Outdoor Model Railroad Stops Traffic, from the Erie News.

<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/46723203/outdoor-model-railroad-known-to-stop-traffic-in-summit-township-neighborhood>

The **Beltline** needs your articles **in MS Word format**, photos as **JPEG image files**, and links about trains and railroading, prototypical or scale, new or old. Send them to [**GilBaldwin3@gmail.com**](mailto:GilBaldwin3@gmail.com)