

North America: Steam and Tourist Railway News • July, 2021

31. July, 2021

Tourist Railways and Museums Featuring Operating Steam Locomotives

Maine

Alna, Maine

28. July, 2021: Monson 3 was unloaded at Wiscasset, Waterville and Farmington Railway (WW&F), Alna Maine. Already on hand at Alna is B. & S. R. (Bridgton & Saco River Railroad) 7. Both Monson 3 and B. & S. R. 7 are owned by Maine Narrow Gauge Railroad Company & Museum, Portland, Maine.

On 07. August, 2021, together with WW&F Ry. (Wiscasset, Waterville and Farmington Railway) 9, Monson Railroad 3 – and – B. & S. R. 7 will be under steam for the WW&F annual picnic.

- M.R.R. (Monson Railroad) 3, 0-4-4T Forney (Vulcan Iron Works, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 2093 / 1912)
- B. & S. R. (Bridgton & Saco River Railroad) 7, 2-4-4T Forney (BLW 40864 / 1913)
- WW&F Ry (Wiscasset, Waterville and Farmington Railway) 9, 0-4-4T Forney (Portland Company, Portland, Maine 622 / 1891), ex-Sandy River & Rangeley Lakes (SR&RL) 6

Wiscasset, Waterville and Farmington Railway Museum: <https://www.wwfry.org/>

Maine Narrow Gauge Railroad Company & Museum: <https://mainenarrowgauge.org/>

Ohio

Peninsula, Ohio

12. July, 2021: Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (CVSR) announced a series of excursions scheduled for September, 2021 to be powered by Nickel Plate Road 765:

- Nickel Plate Road 765, 2-8-4 (Lima 8673 / 1944), NKP class S2

On the following dates, passenger trains will operate between CVSR Rockside Station and CVSR Akron Northside Station, a distance of approximately 48 kilometers (30 miles):

- Friday, 03. September, 2021
- Friday, 10. September, 2021
- Saturday, 11. September, 2021
- Sunday, 12. September, 2021
- Friday, 17. September, 2021
- Saturday, 18. September, 2021
- Sunday, 19. September, 2021

Trains operate through the scenic Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

CVSR Rockside Station
7900 Old Rockside Road
Independence, Ohio 44131

CVSR Akron Northside Station
27 Ridge Street
Akron, Ohio 44308

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad: <https://www.cvsr.org/steam/>

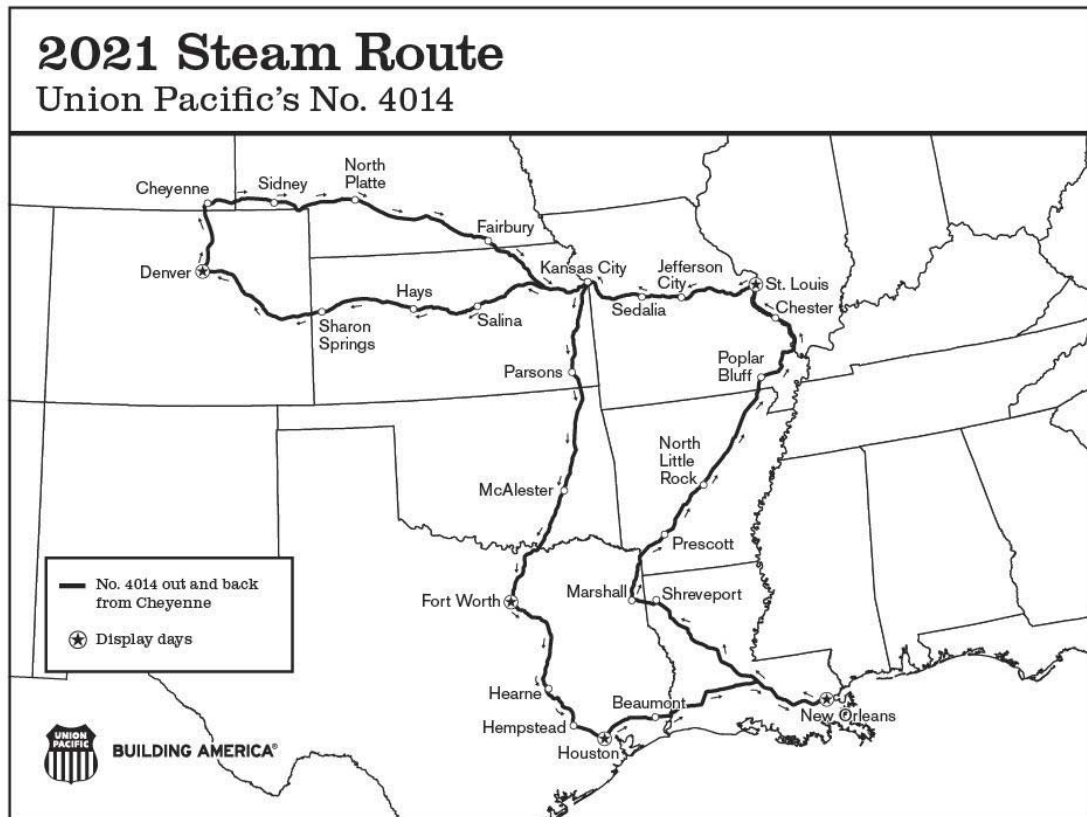
Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society: <https://fortwaynerailroad.org/>

Wyoming

Cheyenne, Wyoming

07. July, 2021: At their corporate website, Union Pacific Railroad released the 2021 itinerary for UP 4014, "Big Boy." UP 4014 will depart Cheyenne, Wyoming on Thursday, 05. August, 2021, returning on Tuesday, 07. September, 2021:

- Union Pacific 4014, 4-8-8-4 (ALCO Schenectady 69585 / 1941), "Big Boy"



Above: The route of the 2021 UP 4014 tour. Source: Union Pacific Railroad.

Thursday, August 5, 2021: Cheyenne, Wyoming – Sidney, Nebraska

Friday, August 6, 2021: Sidney, Nebraska – North Platte, Nebraska

Saturday, August 7, 2021:

Sunday, August 8, 2021: North Platte, Nebraska – Fairbury, Nebraska

Monday, August 9, 2021: Fairbury, Nebraska – Kansas City, Missouri

Tuesday, August 10, 2021: Display in Kansas City

Wednesday, August 11, 2021: Kansas City, Missouri – Parsons, Kansas

Thursday, August 12, 2021: Parsons, Kansas – McAlester, Oklahoma

Friday, August 13, 2021: McAlester, Oklahoma – Fort Worth, Texas

Saturday, August 14, 2021: Display in Fort Worth

Sunday, August 15, 2021: Fort Worth, Texas – Hearne, Texas

North America: Steam and Tourist Railway News • July, 2021

Monday, August 16, 2021: Hearne, Texas – Houston, Texas
Tuesday, August 17, 2021: Display in Houston
Wednesday, August 18, 2021: Houston, Texas – Beaumont, Texas
Thursday, August 19, 2021: Beaumont, Texas – Livonia, Louisiana
Friday, August 20, 2021: Livonia, Louisiana – New Orleans, Louisiana
Saturday, August 21, 2021: Display in New Orleans
Sunday, August 22, 2021: New Orleans, Louisiana – Livonia, Louisiana (public trip)
Monday, August 23, 2021: Livonia, Louisiana – Shreveport, Louisiana
Tuesday, August 24, 2021: Display in Shreveport
Wednesday, August 25, 2021: Shreveport, Louisiana – Prescott, Arkansas
Thursday, August 26, 2021: Prescott, Arkansas – North Little Rock, Arkansas
Friday, August 27, 2021: North Little Rock, Arkansas – Poplar Bluff, Missouri
Saturday, August 28, 2021: Poplar Bluff, Missouri – Saint Louis, Missouri
Sunday, August 29, 2021: Display in Saint Louis, Missouri
Monday, August 30, 2021: Saint Louis, Missouri – Jefferson City, Missouri
Tuesday, August 31, 2021: Jefferson City, Missouri – Kansas City, Missouri
Wednesday, September 1, 2021: Display in Kansas City
Thursday, September 2, 2021: Kansas City, Missouri – Salina, Kansas
Friday, September 3, 2021: Salina, Kansas – Hays, Kansas
Saturday, September 4, 2021: Hays, Kansas – Sharon Springs, Kansas
Sunday, September 5, 2021: Sharon Springs, Kansas – Denver, Colorado
Monday, September 6, 2021: Display in Denver
Tuesday, September 7, 2021: Denver, Colorado – Cheyenne, Wyoming

Complete details can be found at the Union Pacific Railroad website:

<https://www.up.com/heritage/steam/schedule/index.htm>

Colorado

Antonito, Colorado

14. July, 2021: “With the deployment of oil burning C&TS 489 well in process, work has turned back to finishing C&TS 488. The lower half of the rear tube sheet has been replaced. Over the last two days all the tubes have been installed, rolled and beaded with most of the rear seal welding complete. Once C&TS 488 is complete, there will be 7 operable steam locomotives at the C&TS.”

- Cumbres & Toltec 488, 2-8-2 (BLW 58589 / 1925), 36-inch gauge, formerly Denver & Rio Grande Western 488, D&RGW class K-36
- Cumbres & Toltec 489, 2-8-2 (BLW 58590 / 1929), 36-inch gauge, formerly Denver & Rio Grande Western 489, D&RGW class K-36

Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad: <https://cumbrestoltec.com/>

North America: Steam and Tourist Railway News • July, 2021

New Mexico

Albuquerque, New Mexico

In 2000, Santa Fe 2926 was removed from Coronado Park, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Restoration began in 2003.

On the weekend of 24. – 25, July, 2021, for the first time since 1953, Santa Fe 2926 was steamed up and moved under its own power. The locomotive moved approximately 100 meters (300 feet).

- Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway 2926, 4-8-4 (BLW 69814 / 1944)

New Mexico Steam Locomotive Railway Historical Society: <http://www.nmslrhs.org/>

California

San Jose – and – Niles (Fremont), California

04. July, 2021: Based in San Jose, California, California Trolley & Railroad Corporation plan to move Southern Pacific 2479 from History Park, San Jose 39 kilometers (24 miles) to Niles, a district of Fremont, California. The planned move, expected to require three (3) years, includes the former Southern Pacific Lenzen Avenue roundhouse and turntable. Additional details at the links below:

- Southern Pacific 2479, 4-6-2 (BLW 57228 / 1923), SP class P-10

During the Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989, the Lenzen Roundhouse was severely damaged. The roundhouse was subsequently dismantled, with bricks, timbers and other components saved. Evidently, Niles Canyon Railway will make an effort to reconstruct the roundhouse at a site in Niles district, Fremont, California.

California Trolley & Railroad Corporation: <https://ctrc.org/ctrc-blog/move-to-niles>

Niles Canyon Railway: <https://www.ncry.org/blog/historic-locomotive-and-railroad-roundhouse-to-move-from-santa-clara-county-to-niles-canyon-railway/>

Oregon

Lebanon, Oregon

On 07. July, 2021, Santiam Excursion Trains, affiliated with the Albany & Eastern Railroad Company (AERC), announced via email plans, beginning fall, 2021, to include a serviceable Baldwin 2-6-2 locomotive to power their tourist trains:

- Santa Maria Valley 205, 2-6-2 (BLW 57613 / 1924)

Circa 1985, Santa Maria Valley 205 was purchased by a private individual. It was eventually moved to Independence, Oregon where, during the following decades, in a small engine house, it was gradually repaired.

In 2019, Santa Maris Valley 205 was sold to Albany & Eastern Railroad Company (AERC).

North America: Steam and Tourist Railway News • July, 2021

Santiam Excursion Trains plan to move Santa Maria Valley 205 from Independence to Lebanon in August, 2021. In Lebanon, Oregon, an engine house for the locomotive is under construction. Eventually, plans include using SMV 205 to power excursions between Lebanon and Santiam Mill and return.

Santiam Excursion Trains: <https://santiamexcursiontrains.com/>

Steam Charters

Historic Transport Preservation, Inc. are planning a series of steam charter events in Pennsylvania, USA for November, 2021.

Historic Transport Preservation: <https://steamspecials.com/>

Lerro Photography is planning a series of steam charter events in 2021 and 2022:

- 27. – 29. September, 2021: Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad. Locomotives to be used:
 - Denver & Rio Grande 168, 4-6-0 (BLW 6670 / 1883), D&RG class T-12, 36-inch gauge
 - Denver & Rio Grande 425, 2-8-0 ((BLW 14352 / 1895), 36-inch gauge, originally Florence and Cripple Creek Railroad 315, repainted from Denver & Rio Grande 315
 - Rio Grande Southern 20, 4-6-0 (ALCO / Schenectady 5007 / 1899), 36-inch gauge, from Colorado Railroad Museum, Golden, Colorado
- March, 2022: California, USA
 - 26. -27. March, 2022: Railtown 1897 State Historic Park, Jamestown: Sierra Railroad 3
 - 28. March, 2022: Niles Canyon Railway, Sunol
 - One additional event not yet detailed

Lerro Photography: <https://www.lerrophotography.com/photoshoots/railroad-photo-shoots/>

Trains Magazine is planning several charter events:

- 31. August, 2021: “Sunset on the Rio Grande Southern” (sold out): Antonito, Colorado
- 02. – 03. September, 2021: “Extra 494 with SP 18”: Durango, Colorado
- 05. September, 2021: Rio Grande Southern 20: Antonito, Colorado
- 14. November, 2021: Soo Line 1003, Horicon, Wisconsin
- 29. – 30. January, 2022: U.S. Sugar 148, Clewiston, Florida

Tickets for the Soo Line 1003 charter are available via the Eventbrite website:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/soo-line-1003-photo-charter-tickets-159036828435>

“We've also got other winter and spring, 2022 fun in the planning.” - Jim Wrinn – Editor, Trains Magazine: <https://www.trains.com/>

North America: Steam and Tourist Railway News • July, 2021

Union Pacific Railroad: UP 4014 August – September, 2021 Tour Thoughts Regarding Photographic Opportunities

The UP 4014 tour planned for the period August - September, 2021, has already been a public relations success. Since details of the tour were announced on 07. July, 2021, dozens of media outlets across the many Midwestern States through which the train is scheduled to pass have publicized this event.

For those enthusiasts wishing to witness UP 4104 in service, or get up close and personal at one of the several occasions on which UP 4014 is scheduled to be on public display, this tour will offer attractive opportunities.

Enthusiasts whose primary interest is photography may be a bit disappointed, however. The route of the planned tour and will feature largely uninteresting scenery (no mountains).

During the past decade+, field work with Union Pacific Railroad included several locations between Cheyenne, Wyoming and Kansas City, Missouri. On the following pages, images from four (4) locations are depicted. As can be seen, scenery east of Cheyenne through central Nebraska is quite flat.



Above: On December 17, 2012 at 10:00, at O'Fallons (27 kilometers (16.5 miles) west of North Platte), Nebraska, milepost 300.5, Union Pacific 5550 leads an eastbound freight train through the control point. Note the nice, low side light, possible at this location during early winter, just a few days prior to the winter solstice. At this point, the Union Pacific line north toward the coal fields near Gillette, Wyoming diverges from its main line. UP 4014 is scheduled to pass this location around 14:00 on August 6, 2021.

North America: Steam and Tourist Railway News • July, 2021

Note also that particularly along Union Pacific's main line through central Nebraska, interesting low, midday side light is only available during late fall, winter and early spring months. Mid-summer days will feature high sun, with sun directly on the nose of an eastbound locomotive in the morning, and on the tail of eastbound trains during evenings.



Above: 5 kilometers (3 miles) west of Maxwell, Nebraska, Union Pacific 7935 leads an eastbound loaded coal train at Control Point Keith, milepost 274. January 15, 2015, 14:35. The 2-lane highway on the left-hand side of this view is US Highway 30. On August 8, 2021, UP 4014 is scheduled to operate through this control point around 08:30 on Sunday, August 8, 2021.



Above, left: Union Pacific 4991 leads an eastbound freight train through Gibbon, Nebraska, milepost 176. October 20, 2010, 12:43. UP 4014 is scheduled to pass this location just after noon on August 8, 2021. Above, right: Union Pacific 6655 leads a westbound empty coal train approaching Gibbon Junction, Nebraska. February 1, 2012, 10:37. The track diverging from the main line toward Kansas City can be seen on the far right-hand side of this view.



Above: A westbound Union Pacific freight train approaches Union Pacific track and signal staff inspecting a turnout at Control Point Gerry (just west of Hanover), Kansas. July 2, 2008, 07:23.

Along the Gulf Coast, the weather will almost certainly be hot and humid: uncomfortable for life outdoors and poor for photos of steam locomotives.

In Midwest, USA, most vantage points accessible and safe for photography of trains will exist at level crossings or highway overpasses.

On July 26, 2019, UP 4014 operated in Midwest, USA from Butler, Wisconsin to West Chicago, Illinois.

In an effort to find a location both safe for photography and relatively uncluttered by wires, brush or other obstructions, on-line maps, including street views, were studied. After physically visiting several locations well prior to the train's arrival, we elected to choose the view at West 7 Mile Road, Caledonia, Wisconsin as the location for the first image of the day.

Even after such preparations, the final image required a bit of processing in Photoshop. Shadows were "opened-up," and electrical wires once visible above and to the left of the locomotive were removed.

Images similar to the view on the following page may be the best one can hope to achieve during the planned August, 2021 tour:



*Above: UP 4014 at 7-Mile Road, Caledonia, Wisconsin. July 26, 2019, 09:25. Below and to the right of the locomotive, common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*) with their yellow flowers, line the railway right-of-way.*