

Sacramento Southern Railroad - MOW Update
May 26, 2013

Greetings!

This is your Maintenance of Way Team weekly update for May 26, 2013. As Chris mentioned in last week's update, I will be undertaking the duty of producing the weekly update for the time being. Many thanks to Chris for his outstanding efforts of keeping us all informed over the last year. He's doing an incredible job managing our team and I am pleased to be able to help him out in this small way. Anyway, this was a very busy week for your MOW Team so, without further ado, here's the latest:

NEWS FLASH: this summer, Switch 102 will be built! It will connect Track 560 (just east of the derail) with the Turntable at the north end of the Erecting Shop in the old SP Rail Yards. Your MOW Team has already assembled the major track components – the switch points, stock rails, closure rails, and frog (which will be the SSRR's first spring frog).

On Tuesday evening, the crew consisting of Alan, Chris, Mike T, Frank, and Heather located the other components necessary by "digging" through the big bins in our "corporation yard". Cliff worked his welding magic on the gauge plate. Mike H., Pat, and Gene continued their gallant efforts at restoring to operation our malfunctioning generators.

Earlier in the day, Mike Taylor and the Weedies (Heather, Dave M.) worked the Hood Line on doing what they do best – attacking the organic invasion of our track. Mike and his valiant Weedies deserve our thanks for keeping the Hood dream alive!

Thursday was a historic day for your MOW Team as our equipment crossed the new double-diamond for the first time. In fact, our own Frank Werry in the A-6 motorcar was the first MOW "engineer" to pilot MOW equipment over the Interchange. Following the A-6 was the A-5 and Dave M. in the Scarifer. Many thanks to SSRR Conductor Chuck Malley, brakeman Brenton MacDonald for their help.

Friday, Chris and Heather began tearing into the Scarifer, dismantling the hydraulic system to find out why it no longer has any "umph".

Saturday, a small but dedicated crew consisting of Chris, John R., Heather, and Mike F. gathered to sort and locate the ties we need for the Switch 102 build. This was very heavy work and the crew went above and beyond – especially Mike F. who gave his blood. In addition, Heather and John corrected a vegetation defect, reported by your trusty track inspectors, by destroying a grape vine that was fouling our track at MP 3.1.

THIS WEEK: The crew will be meeting on Tuesday and Thursday at the Shops at 5 o'clock p.m. to continue our sacred work. Saturday, we will gather at 8 o'clock a.m. Come on out and join the fun.

In addition, on Saturday, we will be offering a summer-session Part 214 Roadway Worker Safety training and test for those who could not make it earlier this year. It will be held in the CSRM East Theater at 9 a.m.

There you have it then. We'll see you out on the line...

Alan, Chris, and Richard.

