

# FEATHER RIVER RAIL SOCIETY AGENDA REPORT

DATE: November 30, 2004  
FROM: David Epling/Director Vicknair  
ITEM: Old Business 4  
SUBJECT: **Model Railroad Timeline**

Previously, a Model Railroad Committee was appointed to create new plans for a new HO scale model railroad in the Gift Shop that would better represent the Western Pacific through the Feather River Canyon area. This layout would function as a visual display for visitors and also be accessible to all members as an "afterhours" activity.

The committee appointed was David Epling and Tom Carter with assistance by Eugene Vicknair.

The committee would like to present the following plan and timeline for the model railroad and associated improvements to the Gift Shop to the Board for approval. We would also like to solicit input from the Board and the managers, particularly Museum Manager John Walker.

## *Overview*

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The model railroad would represent the WP mainline from James and the Arnold Loop to Portola. It would include the Quincy Railroad, an interchange with the Indian Valley, Keddie Wye, the Williams Loop, a representation of the Sierra Valley and Mohawk narrow gauge and a representation of the yard in Portola as it appeared in the 1940's, complete with roundhouse. The track plan is designed to allow for two main lines to be in operation in opposing directions. As the WP is a single track railroad, the two mainlines intertwine in the design to allow each to be visible in specific scenes, allowing multi-train operation while preserving the look of a single mainline.

## *Plan*

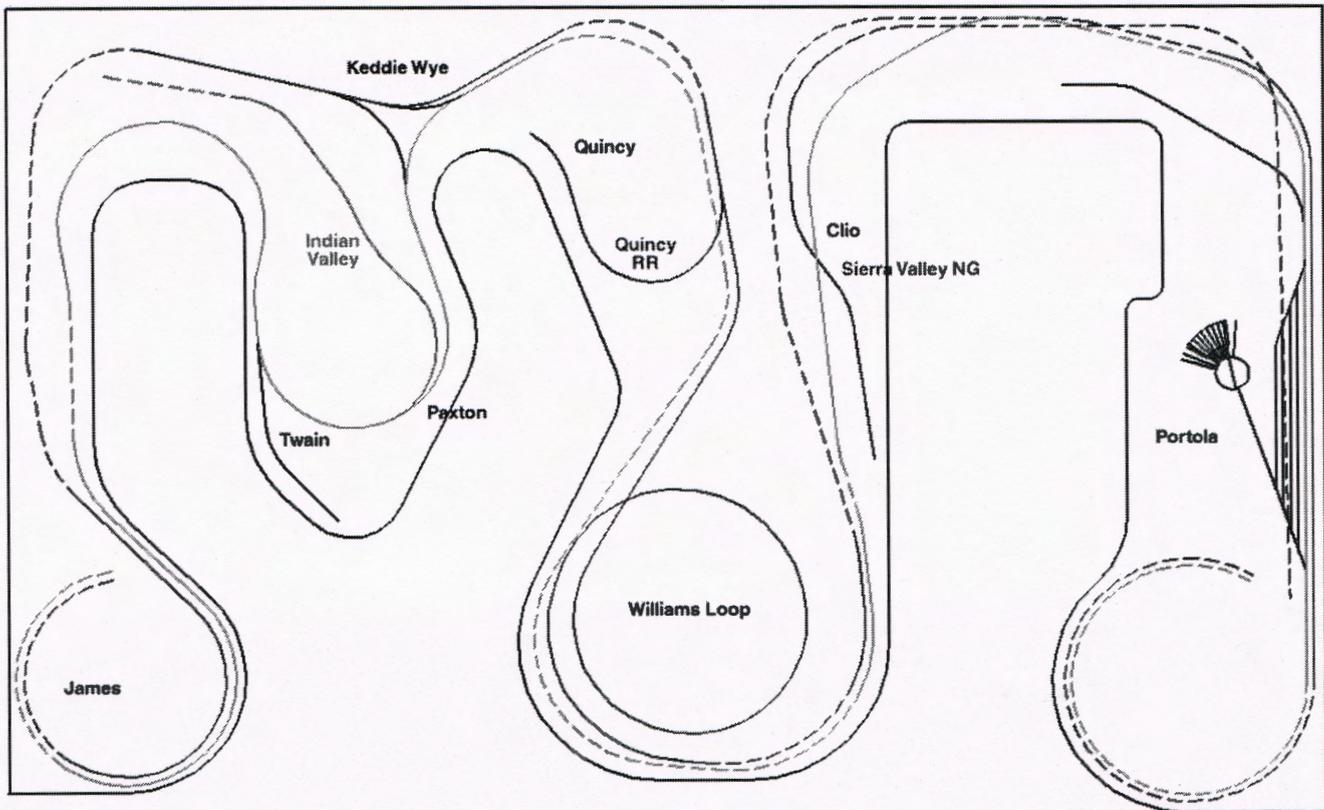
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The current layout would be dismantled, preserving materials that can be reused on the new layout. When the area is clear, the walls on the east end of the Gift Shop will be insulated and drywalled using surplus material from the Silver Debris work and new material acquired through donation.

Following completion of the drywalling, benchwork construction will begin. The benchwork will incorporate storage area for model railroad materials as well as Gift Shop overstock. Also, some Gift Shop merchandise display areas will be part of the model structure.

The layout will be able to easily operate multiple trains at the push of a button, allowing for hand-free operation during museum hours. After hours, volunteers can operate their own equipment.

## Basic Design of Layout



A hidden staging yard will be located under the layout.

All mainline curves will be capable of handling long cars such as 86' boxcars and CZ dome cars.

### Timeline

Dec 12, 2004	Pack Rolling Stock, begin dismantle of layout (carefully to preserve reusable materials)
January 2005	Begin insulation and drywalling of east end of Gift Shop.
February 2005	Complete wall work.
March 2005	Base Benchwork, Helixes, Return track, staging yard completed.
May 2005	Mainline completed and operational
Start of Operations/Memorial Day 2005	All trackwork completed
End of Season/Labor Day 2005	All base scenery completed (ie: Plasterwork...no bare lumber showing)

**ACTION:** Discussion. Possible Action.