

The Train Sheet



Preserving "The Feather River Route"

...news from The Feather River Rail Society and The Portola Railroad Museum

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1929 Ingersoll-Rand Diesel Locomotive on Its Way to Portola!



Shown ready to be secured onto our DODX heavy-duty flat car at Billings, Montana, is the FRRS' newest acquisition. This is a 600 hp unit (two 300 hp engines) built by Ingersoll-Rand in May 1929 and it weighs 110 tons. This was the 46th unit they built and the eighth 600 hp unit built. Our unit is probably the only IR 600 hp unit in existence. It originally was sold to Foley Bros., Inc. at Colstrip, Montana where they used it to switch cars at Northern Pacific's strip mine operating over a one mile line from the coal pits to the NP interchange. In July 1963 it was sold to Long Construction Co. (now United Industries) in Billings to switch cars at their gravel plant.

The body is in remarkably good condition with very little rust present. The wooden window frames will have to be replaced as will the doors.

Billings resident and FRRS member Bob La Force made signs, "Private Property, Historical Preservation, Please Do Not Vandalize," for the locomotive to hopefully prevent theft of copper and other items during transit to Portola. Photo by Norm Holmes.

Inside this Issue:

- Santa Claus Trains are approaching.
- Reports of Railroad Days, Railfan Day & Southern Regional Meet.
- Complete story of the acquisition and history of our Ingersoll-Rand unit.