Enhancing Small Layout Operations



LCL & Livestock

Al Daumann January 30, 2021

Overall Clinic Goals & Outline

Goals:

- Present a brief summary of operational features to enhance operations on small layouts
- Present details of Less than Car Load (LCL) and Livestock operational features for use on small layouts (and maybe larger ones too)

Outline

- Summary Of Operational Features To Enhance Operations
 - Why enhance operations (constraints, problems etc.)?
 - Author's layout summary as overall sample of small layout enhanced operations
- LCL Operational Features To Enhance Operations
 - Introduction, key features, samples / case studies
- Livestock Operational Features To Enhance Operations
 - Introduction, key features, samples / case studies
- Overall summary

Why The Need To "Enhance Operations"?

 Medium and especially large layout operations are like a dinner featuring Porterhouse steak and Maine Lobster; appetizers, side dishes and desserts won't make or break the meal



 Small layout operations (such as my BR&W) are more like a dinner with an entrée of chuck steak and fish sticks; above average appetizers, side dishes and desserts are required to enhance the meal

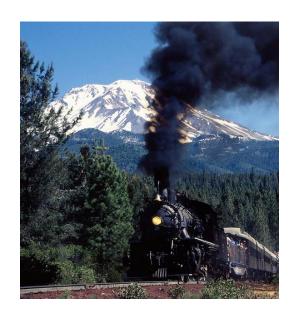


Enhancing BR&W Ops - Constraints, Problems & Case Study

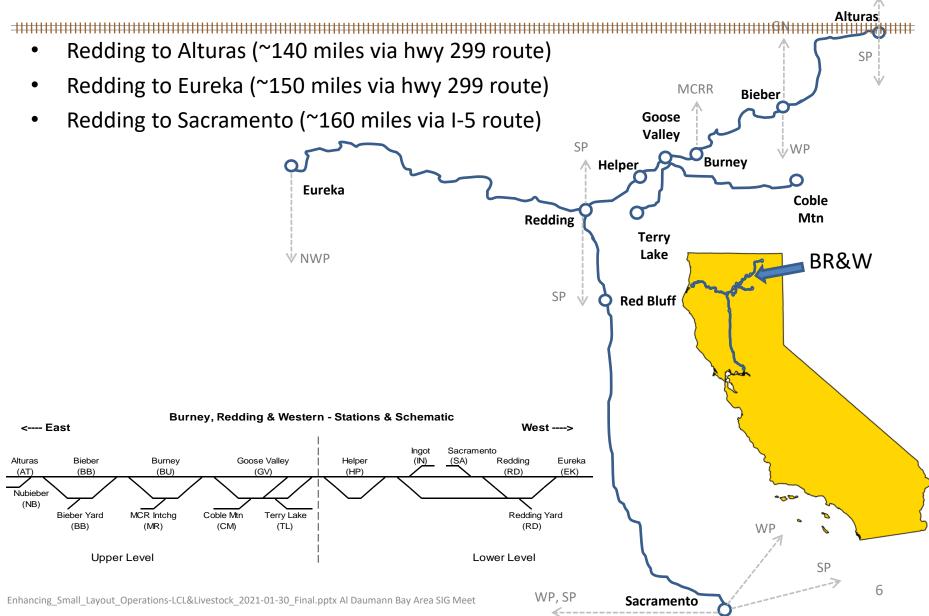
- Layout owner is the only person at each session
 - Layout owner gets bored easily; looking for more variety
- Layout owner likes "big picture / systems view"
 - Commodities, trains had a decent plan, but looking to improve.
- Interest in prototype symbols, blocks and trains grew
 - Wanted a plan beyond just trains on the ETT (i.e. wanted extras included)
 - What to do about empty moves? Employ more prototypical paperwork?
- In order to highlight some Ops enhancing approaches, author's Burney, Redding & Western (BR&W) layout will be a case study:
 - Brief BR&W layout and operating session summary
 - Details regarding
 - Prototypical influenced waybills
 - Special Actions & Instructions (SA&Is)

Case Study - BR&W Size, Mainline, Era Etc.

- The BR&W is located in a 10' x 12' bedroom, plus a 3' x 4.5' closet, plus ~ 6' x 6' of "Joint Authority" in an adjacent laundry / utility room (for additional staging and a dispatcher desk)
- 105' mainline, double decked, 24" min radius, HO
- Proto-freelanced, Northern California, 1947
- Redding, CA to Bieber, CA modeled
 - Eureka, Sacramento & Alturas, CA as staging



Case Study - BR&W Description (Map & Diagrams)



Case Study - BR&W Operations Summary

- All BR&W power is steam (GN, ATSF & WP diesels "tolerated")
- CC/WB
- 1:1 real time clock, 24 hr timetable



- TT&TO dispatching
- Ops sessions ~ 4 hrs (mid session break); hosted 90 sessions
- Guest crew size 3 (Redding YM, Bieber YM, Road Crew #1)
 - Layout owner is typically the Dispatcher, Road Crew #2
- Operations feature bridge traffic among GN, WP, SP & NWP
- Limited local industries (copper mining, lumber, livestock)
- LCL / small freight house ops, livestock ops, passenger & mail service

Above room size, mainline length, crew size etc. meet "small layout" criteria

BR&W Special Actions & Instructions

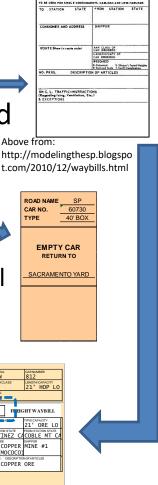
- Why Special Actions & Instructions (SA&Is) ?
 - SA&Is "enhance operations" by creating add'l moves / steps during the ops session that normally would be made between sessions or not at all



- Brief overview of the CCWB system these SA&Is enhance
- Listing & high level description of the SA&Is used on the BR&W

CCWB System Used On The BR&W

- Before getting into SA&I details, a brief BR&W CCWB overview
- The BR&W uses a CCWB system adapted from prototypical waybills Tony Thompson has popularized via his clinics & blogs
- BR&W CCs are ~ standard Old Line Graphics size
 - A key, non-prototypical, non-standard modification is the use of a prominent, two letter "station code" on the waybill
 - This modification is for "playability", allowing crews to glance at, rather than read, the primary destination (SA = Sacramento)
 - The SA&I "card or slip" is typically placed in the CC in front of the WB during staging of the layout and may be removed by crew members during the session
 - Of course, there are exceptions ...



SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY FREIGHT WAYBILL

BR&W Road Crew Job Tools

The Train Brief contains key information for Road Crews (and to some extent, Yardmasters) in order to perform required tasks

BURNEY, REDDING & WESTERN

#215 – "AM Stock Special"

Departs: Alturas

Works: Bieber Yd, Helper

Destination: Redding Yd

Class: 2

Type: Livestock, Priority Frt

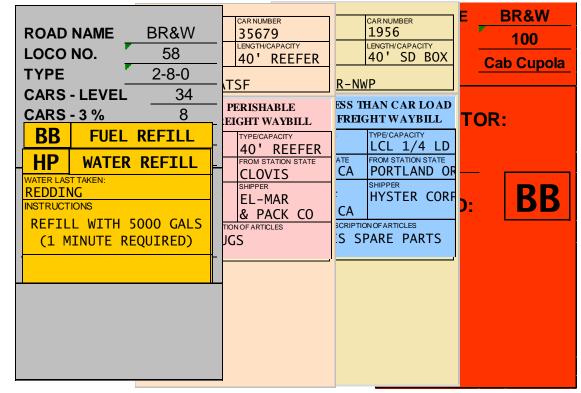
Power: Fast Steam

The AM Stock Special hauls classified blocks of loaded livestock and other priority freight cars from Alturas to Redding. No 215's primary job is picking up livestock in Bieber Yd and / or Helper bound for Redding and beyond. No 215 should not be filled with lower priority freight without the Trainmaster's approval. No 215 terminates in Redding.

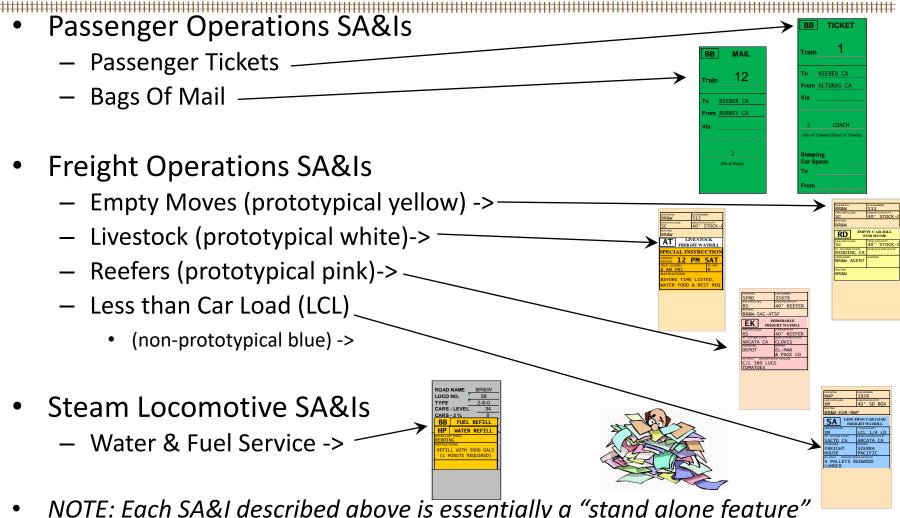
SAFETY IS JOB 1

11/20/201

The "Card Packet" consisting of the Locomotive Card, the revenue car CCs & WBs and the caboose card contain the remaining key info for Road Crews



Special Actions & Instructions Used On The BR&W



- NOTE: Each SA&I described above is essentially a "stand alone feature"
 - One should be able to pick & choose among them based on need, applicability & interest

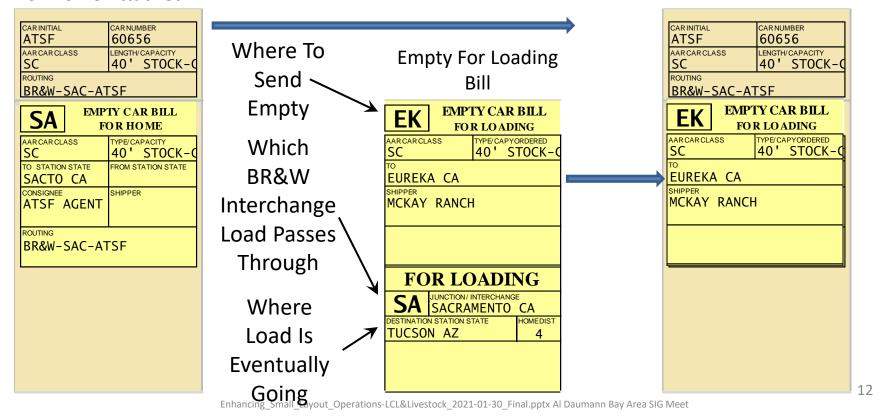
Freight Ops SA&Is – Empty Moves - Loading

- The approach for "Empty For Loading"
 - Having Yardmasters fill "Empty For Loading" requests (based on car type and the direction the load is eventually going) is another form of SA&I



Car Card w/Empty For Home Attached

CC + Empty For Loading



LCL Operational Features To Enhance Operations

LCL Operational Features – General Introduction

- LCL operations fits clearly in the earlier definition of SA&Is since
 LCL "creates additional moves / steps during the session"
- The basic LCL operations concept on the BR&W involves having multiple waybills or slips in the car card representing different kinds of cargo, different destinations or both
- For ease of identification, LCL waybill slips use thin blue paper
- The BR&W main Freight House / Transload location is Redding Yd
 - Redding Yard being located at the junction of 3 lines / subdivisions make its location ideal

LCL Ops – LCL Slips (Inbound From Foreign RR Example)

- The approach for LCL is not really an SA&I
 - Rather, use bills or "slips" representing a $\frac{1}{4}$ load or $\frac{1}{2}$ load
 - Redding Freight House "unloads & transfers" the LCL
 - Cars reloaded to common "off layout" destinations
 - On layout destinations grouped in a Peddler Car(s)



CARINITIAL

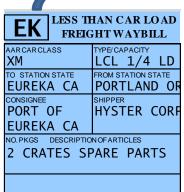


CAR NUMBER

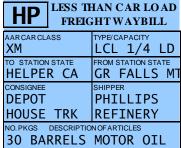
¼ load ½ load

CARINITIAL	CARNUMBER									
NWP	1956									
AARCARCLASS XM	LENGTH/CAPACITY 40' SD BOX									
ROUTING BR&W-EUR-N	WP									
EK EMPTY CAR BILL FOR HOME										
AARCARCLASS XM	TYPE/CAPACITY 40' SD BOX									
TO STATION STATE EUREKA CA	FROM STATION STATE									
NWP AGENT	SHIPPER									
ROUTING										
BR&W-EUR-N	WP									

All 3 LCL "Slips" Are In The CC (Closest Destination In Front)



SA		HAN CAR LOAD SHT WAYBILL									
aarcarcl XM	ASS	TYPE/CAPACITY LCL 1/2 LD									
TO STATION		FROM STATION STATE GR FALLS M									
CONSIGNEE WP		SHIPPER PHILLIPS									
ENG S		REFINERY									
		OF LUBE									
			1								

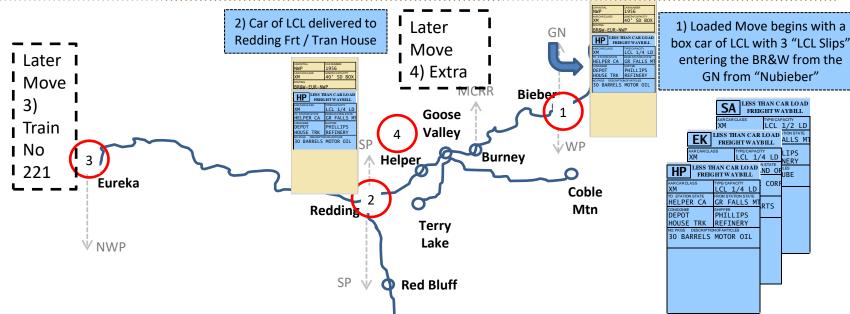


NWP 1956 LENGTH/CAPACITY AARCARCLASS 40' SD BOX UR-NWP FREIGHT WAYBILL AAR CAR CLASS TYPE/CAPACITY LCL 1/4 LD FROM STATION STATE TO STATION STATE HELPER CA GR FALLS M CONSIGNEE DEPOT **PHILLIPS** HOUSE TRK NO. PKGS DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES 30 BARRELS MOTOR OIL



LCL Ops – LCL Example & Map

load load



WP. SP

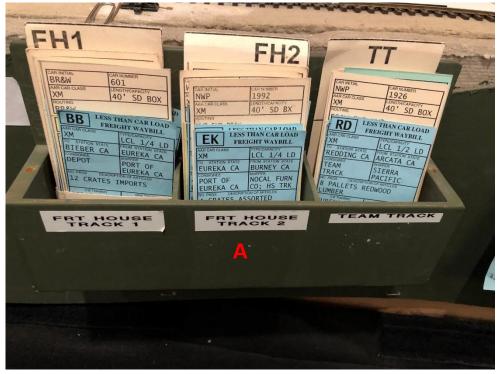
Steps 1 through 5 show the journey of a box car from "Loaded with multiple LCL slips" at Nubieber, through transload in Redding to delivery to Helper, Eureka & Sacramento.

Later I Move 1 5) Train I No **I** 220 Sacramento

LCL Ops – At The Redding Freight House

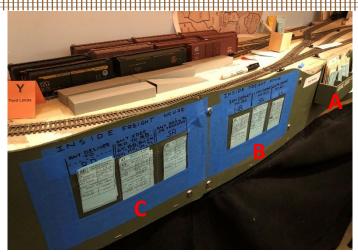


Redding FH: 2 Trks, 4 Cars / Trk (Team Trk (TT) in foreground)



Redding Freight House – LCL In Cars

LCL Ops – At The Redding Freight House (Cont'd)



Redding FH: 2 Trks, 4 Cars / Trk (Team Trk in foreground)



- Move loaded cars with multiple destinations to Frt House
- "Transload" LCL to like off layout destinations (foreign RRs); load in cars
 - Make connection w/specific 2nd Class Freights
- Offload LCL for local delivery (Redding)
- Load Peddler Car for on layout destinations
 - Add to extras running to toward Bieber Yd





LCL sorted by off layout destination / train



LCL sorted by on layout destination / train

BR&W Transportation Plan – 24 Hr ETT

24 hr ETT (four 4 hour ops sessions w/ two hr regular train "gaps" in between)

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	EASIWARD											URAS SUBDIV	S0	N	WESIWARD										
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= 2nd Class Trains to move LCL off BR&W after "transloading / grouping" at Redding FH

LCL Ops – Frt House (2nd Class Train Connections)

	BR&W Redding Freight House & REA Activity Summary	
Start Time	Key Activity During Hour Listed	Train Coordination
12:00 AM	FREIGHT HOUSE	
1:00 AM	Finalize transfer & loading of LCL into a dedicated empty cars appropriate (AAR rules) for each of NB, AT, BB & TL	No 222 EK to NB
2:00 AM	CUTOFF TIME! Pull cars loaded with LCL for NB, AT, BB & TL from Frt House & transfer to RD yard for No 222	No 222 EK to NB
3:00 AM	No 222 departs w/ dedicated LCL cars for NB, AT, BB & TL (Peddler car(s) w/HP, GV & BU placed on XDEE trains to Bieber)	No 222 EK to NB
4:00 AM	1) Spot inbound loaded LCL cars from arriving trains at FH; 2) "Unload LCL"; 3) Spot appropriate (AAR rules) empty cars from / to Frt House	
5:00 AM	1) Spot inbound loaded LCL cars from arriving trains at FH; 2) "Unload LCL"; 3) Spot appropriate (AAR rules) empty cars from / to Frt House	
6:00 AM	FREIGHT HOUSE	
7:00 AM	1) Spot inbound loaded LCL cars from arriving trains at FH; 2) "Unload LCL"; 3) Spot appropriate (AAR rules) empty cars from / to Frt House	
8:00 AM	Finalize gathering of empty cars appropriate for SA	No 220 EK to SA
9:00 AM	Finalize transfer & loading of LCL into a dedicated empty car(s) appropriate (AAR rules) for SA	No 220 EK to SA
10:00 AM	CUTOFF TIME! Pull cars loaded with LCL for SA from Frt House & transfer to RD yard for No 220	No 220 EK to SA
11:00 AM	No 220 departs with dedicated LCL cars for SA; Finalize gathering of empty cars appropriate for EK (for No 221)	No 220 EK to SA

1 of 2

LCL Ops – Frt House (2nd Class Train Connections)

	BR&W Redding Freight House & REA Activity Summary	
Start Time	Key Activity During Hour Listed	Train Coordination
12:00 PM	FREIGHT HOUSE	
1:00 PM	Finalize transfer & loading of LCL into a dedicated empty car(s) appropriate (AAR rules) for EK	No 221 SA to EK
2:00 PM	CUTOFF TIME! Pull cars loaded with LCL for EK from Frt House & transfer to RD yard for No 221	No 221 SA to EK
3:00 PM	No 221 departs (note: 2:30 PM) with dedicated LCL cars for EK	No 221 SA to EK
4:00 PM	1) Spot inbound loaded LCL cars from arriving trains at FH; 2) "Unload LCL"; 3) Spot appropriate (AAR rules) empty cars from / to Frt House	
5:00 PM	1) Spot inbound loaded LCL cars from arriving trains at FH; 2) "Unload LCL"; 3) Spot appropriate (AAR rules) empty cars from / to Frt House	
6:00 PM	RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY (REA) / US POST OFFICE (USPO)	
7:00 PM	Finalize transfer & loading of Express into a dedicated empty cars appropriate (AAR rules) for each of NB, AT, BB & TL	No 12 EK to AT
8:00 PM	CUTOFF TIME! Pull cars loaded with Express for NB, AT, BB & TL from REA & transfer to RD yard for No 12	No 12 EK to AT
9:00 PM	No 12 departs (note: 9:30 PM) w/ dedicated REA cars for NB, AT, BB & TL	No 12 EK to AT
10:00 PM	1) Spot inbound loaded LCL cars from arriving trains at FH; 2) "Unload LCL"; 3) Spot appropriate (AAR rules) empty cars from / to Frt House	
11:00 PM	1) Spot inbound loaded LCL cars from arriving trains at FH; 2) "Unload LCL"; 3) Spot appropriate (AAR rules) empty cars from / to Frt House	

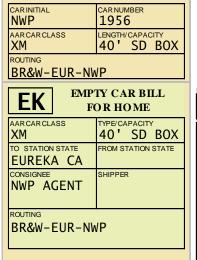
2 of 2

LCL Ops – LCL Slips (Outbound To Foreign RR Example)

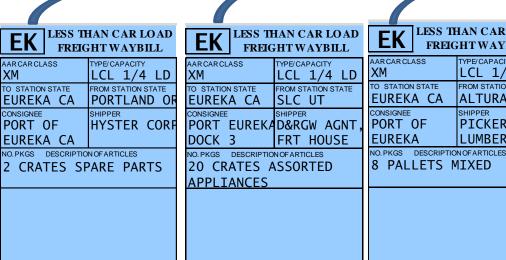
- The inbound car shown earlier has been reloaded at the Redding Freight House
 - All LCL now bound for same (off layout) destination (EK)
 - NWP 1956 will be moved to Redding Yard body tracks
 - Ready for 2nd class train No 221 Eureka Expeditor

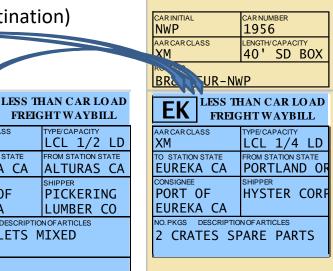


¼ load 1/2 load



All 3 LCL "Slips" Are In The CC (Same Destination)





FREIGHT WAYBILL

SHIPPER

TYPE/CAPACITY

LCL 1/2 LD

FROM STATION STATE

lALTURAS CA

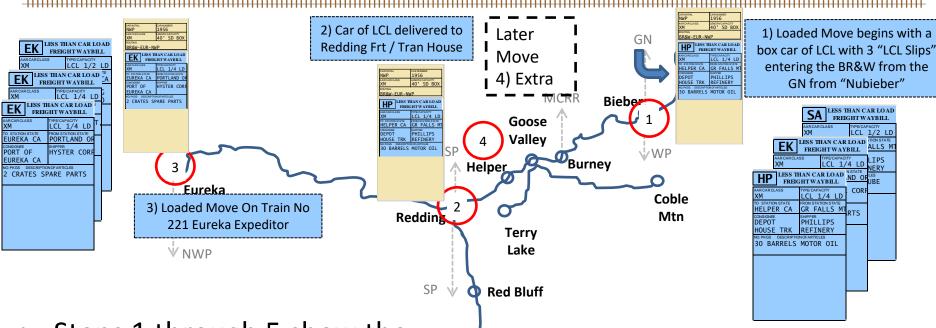
PICKERING

LUMBER CO

INGOD OF

LCL Ops – LCL Example & Map

½ ½ load load



WP. SP

Steps 1 through 5 show the journey of a box car from "Loaded with multiple LCL slips" at Nubieber, through transload in Redding to delivery to Helper, Eureka & Sacramento.

Later |
| Move |
| 5) |
| Train | WP |
| No |
| 220 | SP

LCL Ops - Summary

- A description of a method of enhancing BR&W operations through the use of various aspects of LCL ops were shown
 - Use of thin blue slips in car cards to model multiple type of cargo and / or destinations in a single car
 - Inboard loaded cars with multiple destinations (both on and off layout)
 - Handling (off loading, transloading etc.) of LCL at the Redding Frt House
 - Coordination of loaded, single destination off layout cars with regular 2nd
 Class expedited trains (Employee Time Table, Freight House activity by hour)
- On the BR&W, regular and guest crews generally find the "LCL Ops" system just described to be an interesting and challenging enhancement to small layout operations on the BR&W

Livestock Operational Features To Maximize Operations

Livestock Ops Features – General Introduction

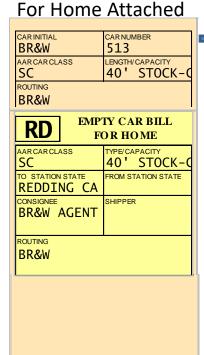
- Livestock operations also clearly fit the earlier definition of SA&Is since Livestock ops also "creates add'l moves / steps during the session"
- The basic livestock ops concept on the BR&W involves modeling the many different "states" that a stock car be in at a given time
 - Various car moves and associated SA&Is model the states and transitions among those states
- Livestock waybills generally follow prototype format, color etc.
- BR&W livestock ops are focused on Bieber Yd's small "stock yard"
 - Bieber Yard is located near livestock raising in Alturas and connections with the Great Northern bringing livestock onto the BR&W
- BR&W livestock ops currently only consider cattle

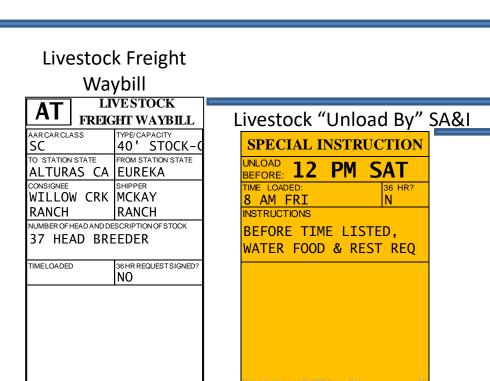
Livestock Ops – Livestock Overview / Basic Aspects

- The approach for livestock ops
 - Use Livestock SA&Is & the 28hr/36hr rule to create a sense of "urgency" for a subset of stock cars traversing across the BR&W via the "UNLOAD BEFORE [time]"



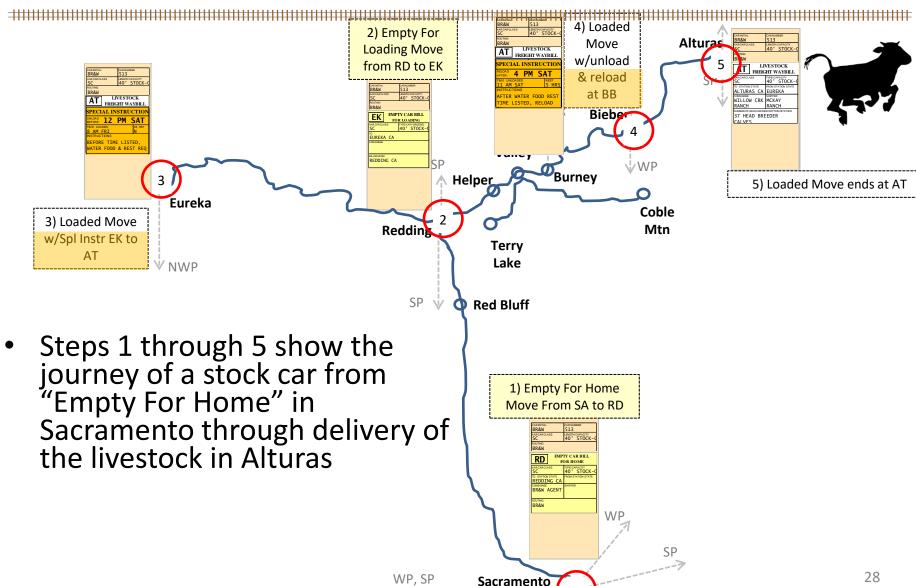
Car Card w/Empty





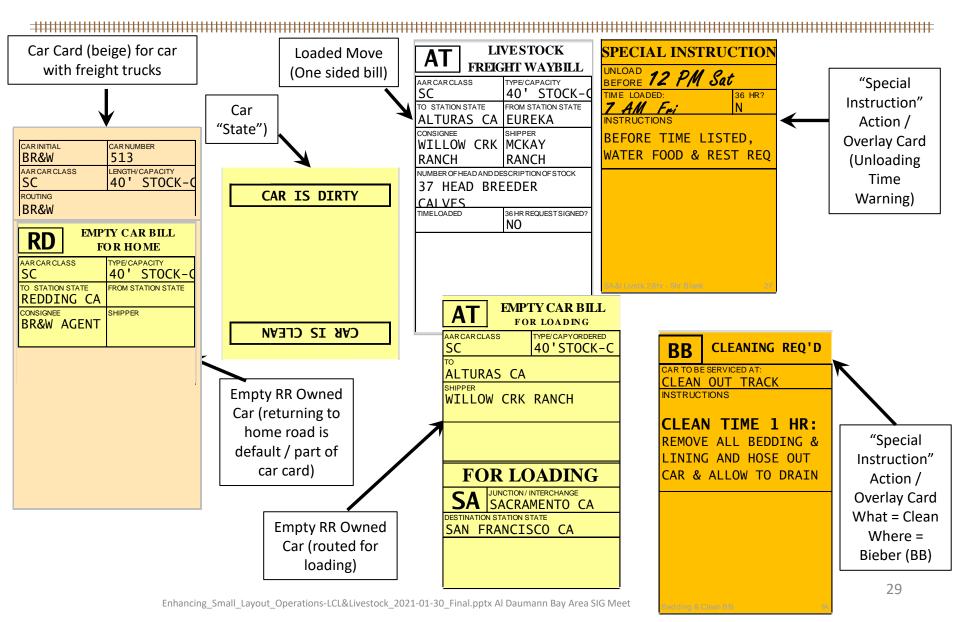
CC + WB + SA&I CAR INITIAL CARNUMBER BR&W 513 AAR CAR CLASS LENGTH/CAPACITY 40' STOCK-ROUTING BR&W LIVESTOCK FREIGHT WAYBILL SPECIAL INSTRUCTION TIME LOADED: 8 AM FRI BEFORE TIME LISTED, WATER FOOD & REST REQ

Livestock Ops – Livestock Example & Map



Enhancing Small_Layout_Operations-LCL&Livestock_2021-01-30_Final.pptx Al Daumann Bay Area \$16_Meet

Livestock Ops – All Aspects

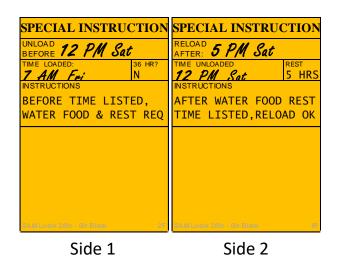


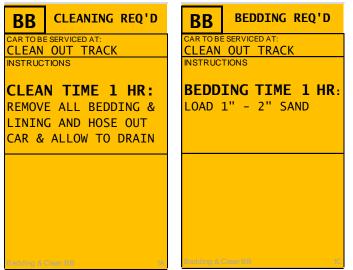
Livestock Ops - Special Actions & Instructions

• The following "car state" slips indicate one of four stock car states:



• The following SA&Is direct activities and / or provide info related to stock cars:





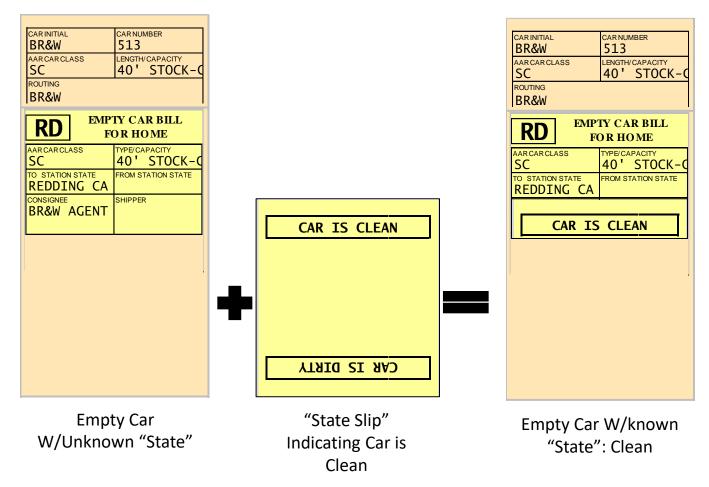
Livestock Ops – At The Bieber Stock Yard



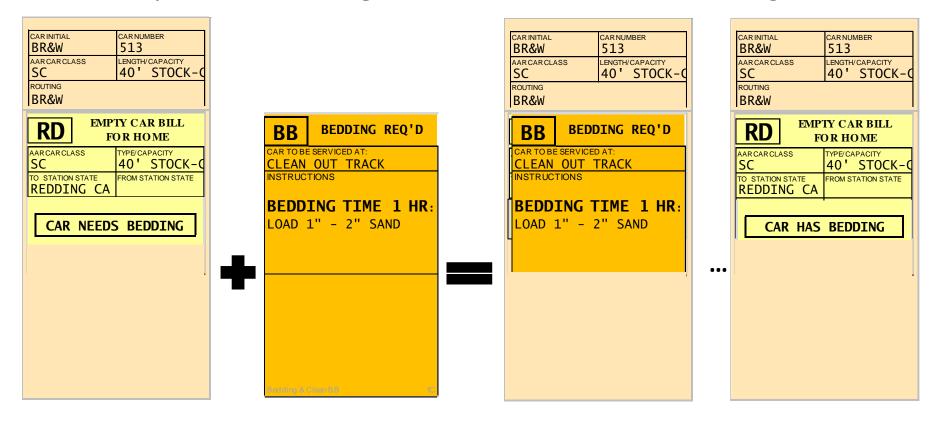
Bieber Yard - Stock Yard Area:

- A) 3 Spots (Load/Unload Stock Cars)
- B) 2 Spots (Cleanout / Add Bedding)
- C) 2 Spots (Team / Inbound Feed Etc.)

1st step, indicate empty car is clean (empty, clean car in RD yard)



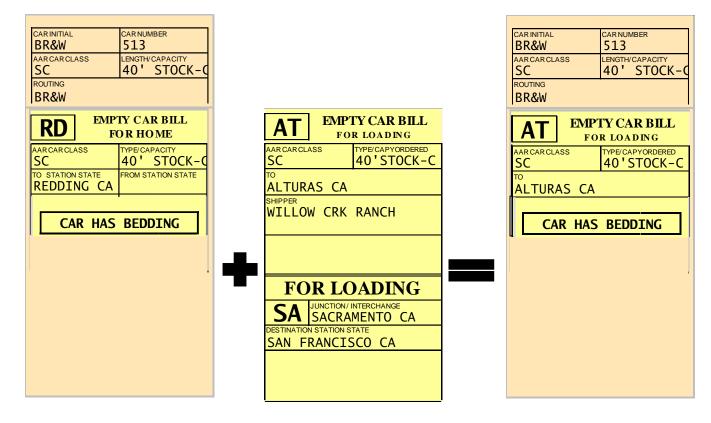
2nd step, before loading w/livestock, car needs bedding



"State": "Needs
Bedding" (Change of
State from "Clean")

In between sessions, "Bedding Req'd" SA&I added to car card SA&I – Directs car to be moved to Bieber Clean Out Track After bedding added at BB, cleanout track (after 1 Hr), "State" is now clean, w/bedding

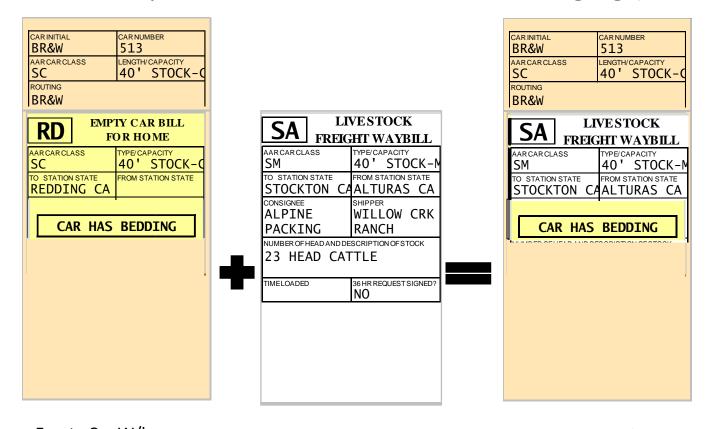
3rd step, empty car w/bedding used to fill "empty request"



Empty Car W/known
"State":
Clean, w/Bedding

Bieber Yard fills "Empty For Loading" request Empty For Loading bill directs car to be moved to Alturas (AT) for loading

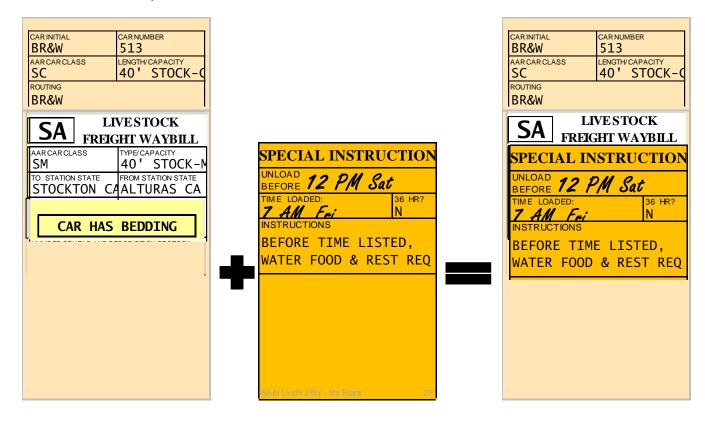
4th step, "load" car with livestock in staging (Alturas)



Empty Car W/known
"State":
Clean, w/Bedding
at Alturas

During re-staging, Trainmaster "loads" car with livestock Car now routed to Sacramento (SA)

5th step, indicate when car is loaded, when needs unloading



Empty Car W/known
"State":
Clean, w/Bedding
at Alturas

During re-staging, Trainmaster indicates a "time loaded" Car now must be delivered or unloaded by 12 PM Sat (it's always Sat on the BR&W)

BR&W Transportation Plan – 24 Hr ETT

24 hr ETT (four 4 hour ops sessions w/ two hr regular train "gaps" in between)

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	J			- 0.50		- 0.00	- 0.45		- 0.00		60	rall River Ivillis		20	4:15		3:45			40:45		40:40		
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Car apacity	WARD	Arrive Dail			ss			FIRST	CLASS			Timetable No. 9	Calls		FI	RST CL	ASS				SECONE			
d 51 Car apacity	WARD		SEC	COND CLA		Leave Daily	Leave Daily			I eave Daily		Timetable No. 9	Calls					Arrive Daily	Arrive Daily	Arrive Daily		CLASS		Arrive
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= 2nd Class Trains to move Livestock off BR&W after "rest, water, feed" at Bieber Yard

Livestock Operational Features - Summary

- A description of a method of enhancing BR&W operations through the use of various aspects of Livestock Ops were shown
 - Introduced concept of various "states" of empty livestock cars: 1) clean, 2)
 needs bedding, 3) has bedding and 4) dirty (not discussed in detail)
 - Additional examples of use of Empty For Loading shown
 - Introduced Livestock Ops related SA&Is: 1) Cleaning Req'd, 2) Bedding Req'd), 3) Unload Before ____ time and 4) Reload After ___ time (not discussed in detail)
 - Location of regular 2nd Class expedited trains with a livestock focus shown on the BR&W Employee Time Table
- As with LCL, on the BR&W, regular & guest crews generally find the "Livestock Ops" system described to be both interesting and challenging as an enhancement to small layout ops on the BR&W

Overall Summary

- A brief summary of operational features used to enhance operations on small layouts such as the BR&W was shown
 - Why enhance operations (constraints, problems etc.)?
 - Author's layout summary as overall sample of small layout enhanced operations
- Details of Less than Car Load (LCL) and Livestock Operations features for use on small layouts was shown, with BR&W examples / case studies
- Hopefully both beginner and more experienced operators (including those more experienced than the author) found a tidbit or two useful for their layouts or future operation sessions
- Thank you for your time and attention!