



Missouri Pacific, St. Louis-San Francisco Railroads
Eagle River Division

Welcome

The Layout

The Eagle River Division of the Missouri Pacific and Frisco railroads welcomes you! This is a prototype-based freelance model railroad of Midwestern railroading in the nineteen-seventies. Structures, scenery, signs, industries, engines, rolling stock, operating schema and vehicles are representative of that era.

Layout construction began in the fall of 2008. Extensive redesign took place in 2013 to improve the track plan for better operations. The current layout is spread between 3 rooms and was constructed with wide aisles to comfortably accommodate operators and visitors.

The layout has recently undergone another redesign, completely separating the upper level from the lower level. The lower level will continue to exist as the Eagle River Division, and will be the primary operating layout. The upper deck will become a MOPAC-based layout set in the 1950's-60's era, with lots of 40 ft. boxcars, F-units, early GEEPS, and possibly a steam engine or two. The main lower deck supports 8 operators, while the upper level will require only 2 people to operate.

The remainder of this document will focus on the main lower level. The upper level is still under redevelopment.

Lenz digital command control is used for power management and train detection. Signals are managed primarily over a CTI-Electronics network. Both systems interface with a personal computer running JMRI. Most consists include at least one sound-equipped locomotive. Other ambient sounds may be heard around the layout.

Train Operations

The layout's linear track plan includes one large classification yard, and interchange with other railroads, and a couple of small local yards. An era-appropriate computer-based centralized traffic control (CTC) system and dispatcher-controlled signals manage mainline train movement. A telephone intercom system is provided for communication between the dispatcher, the yardmaster, and various layout locations.

Car forwarding is managed using JMRI Operations software in "real time". Some manifests and switch lists are generated during the operating session.

Up to 8 operators assemble to operate the railroad. Operating sessions are held about every 6 weeks. While numerous commodities are transported across the system, visitors and operators will see an abundance of grain and grain products moving in covered hoppers. Other commodities transported include coal,

merchandise, machinery, refrigerated perishables, and general freight. The layout is focused on local switching and yard operations, with no manifest freight or passenger service during sessions.

Layout Specifications

NAME	Eagle River Division
SCALE	HO (1:87)
STYLE	Single Deck
ERA	1970s
HEIGHT	40"
TRACK	Code 100 and Code 83
TURNOUTS	Mainline: No. 6 and 8; Spurs: No. 6, 5, and 4.
MIN. RADIUS	22 inches
MAX GRADE	1%
CONTROL	Lenz DCC, CVP Wireless throttles
TRAFFIC	Tomar, NJ, Oregon Rail, Custom-built signals; JMRI CTC panel, CTI-Electronics network
CAR MOVEMENT	JMRI Operations Software

FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

Non-painted layout backdrops are a combination of preprinted backdrops from SceniKing and Backdrop Warehouse. Some building flats are from Angietracksideflats, an eBay seller.

The main level of the layout is divided into 2 power districts and 4 breaker subdistricts. DCC circuit breakers are PSX Power Shields manufactured by DCC Specialties. One of the layout boosters is a DR5033 Digiboost manufactured by Dijkeijs and fully compatible with the Lenz XpressNet network.

The signal network uses SignalMan Control Modules to drive signal LEDs, and is manufactured by CTI-Electronics. Each Signalman module controls up to 16 signal lamps, has built-in signal brightness adjustment, synthesized yellow tint adjust for bipolar LEDs, and onboard current limiting overload protection.

Non-bipolar layout signals are common anode and manufactured by Tomar, NJ International, Oregon Rail, or made in china. The 3-headed signal at Riverside Junction was built by Custom Signal Systems.

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