



## Nevada Northern Railway Foundation

A Nevada 501 (c) 3 Non-Profit Corporation

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### Monthly Operations Report for February 2025

1. Locomotive Status – Updated
  - a. Locomotives in service: 55, 93, 109, 204, 310, 801, Wrecking Crane A & Rotary B.
  - b. Locomotive 81 is out-of-service with running gear and boiler issues. The staff and volunteers have done incredible work on Locomotive 81. The Federal Railroad Administration was here and passed all of the boiler repairs.
  - c. Locomotive 40 is out of service for her heavy repairs. We have started on her repairs; she will be out of service until 2025.
  - d. Locomotives out of service needing moderate repairs: #201 and #802
  - e. Locomotives waiting funding for restoration: Steptoe Valley Smelting and Mining #309 and Rotary Snowplow B (for boiler overhaul.)
  - f. Locomotives out of service needing heavy repairs #80 and the military locomotives.
3. Rolling Stock Status – Updated
  - a. Passenger equipment in service: #07, #08, #09, Flatcar #23, Baggage/RPO #20, Outfit Car #06.
  - b. Passenger Coach 5, painting is complete. Next issue is rebuilding the coach steps and lettering the car.
  - c. Passenger equipment out of service: #10, #2 and #05 needing heavy repairs.
  - d. Caboose in service: #3 and #22 are operational.
  - e. Caboose out service: #5 and #6. Caboose #6 needs a 50-year waiver.
4. Track Status – No change
  - a. Keystone Branch is open.
  - b. Adverse Branch is open.
  - c. Museum Branch is open.
5. Ridership and Ticket Sales – Updated
  - a. In February we carried 193 passengers, this was an increase of 50% compared to the previous year.
  - b. This year we have carried 379 passengers, this was an increase of 42% compared to the previous year.
  - c. Since operations began in 1987, we have carried 380,487 passengers.
6. Economic Impact – The average non-gaming & gaming daily expenditure per overnight visitor \$170. Economic impact for February 2025 was  $193 \times \$170 = \$32,810$ .

### **Award Winning Destination**

Best Adrenaline Rush in Rural Nevada – 2020

Best Historic Railroad of the West – 2023, 2022

Best Museum in Rural Nevada – 2022, 2020, 2017, 2016, 2014, 2013, 2010, 2009, 2008

Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence – 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014

Best Place to Take the Kids in Rural Nevada - 2020, 2019, 2018, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007

Economic impact year to date was  $379 \times \$170 = \$64,430$

These numbers only reflect the economic impact of our train passengers and does not include visitors who did not ride the train.

7. Social Media: Our reach on social media continues to expand:

- a. Our Facebook views was 3,691,556
- b. Our Facebook reach last month was 1,353,829
- c. We have 135,300 page likes.
- d. 202,435 people follow our page.

9. Doodlebug

The Foundation was able to purchase a 1930 Brill, gasoline powered Doodlebug. A Doodlebug is a self-propelled railroad passenger car that was used by railroads on branch lines with low ridership. The Nevada Northern Railway considered purchasing one in the 1930s but never did. A restored car came up and the Foundation was able to raise the purchase price. The car was delivered on February 12, 2025. The Facebook post of the car being unloaded was viewed 333,582 times with 90% of the viewer being non-followers of our Facebook page.

Our plan is to use the car in place of diesel-powered excursion trains when the passenger load is 30 or less.

We have nicknamed the car the da Bug. We are in the process of developing a logo for the car based on a blue ladybug. Based on initial reaction from the public, It appears that the da Bug will be very popular.



The car being unloaded.



The car is powered by a Chevy 396 CI V-8 and can carry 40 passengers.



The car has already been used in service and lived up to our expectations. Our current plan is to leave it in its current paint scheme but change the letterboard lettering from Secret Valley Traction Company to Steptoe Valley Traction Company.



We are beginning to develop gift shop items. We are following the lead of the California Western Railroad. The railroad purchased a Doodlebug back in the day and because of its smelly exhausted the locals began calling it the Skunk. Today the railroad is know as the Skunk Train and has lots of logoed merchandise featuring a skunk.

