

Design Challenge for the PCR San Francisco Bay Area Layout Design & Operations Weekend Meet February 2 - 4, 2024



Northwestern Pacific GE 44-ton switcher working the ferry landing at Tiburon

The 2024 "Layout Design and Operations" meet will be having a layout design challenge again this year. Presenters will need to be at the meet in Santa Rosa on Feb. 3 to present. Participants will need to submit designs by January 22, 2024.

SETTING

This year's challenge will be to design a layout design element for one of two specific locations.

- * Northwestern Pacific's Tiburon Ferry terminal
- * Petaluma and Santa Rosa Railroad in Petaluma

Both of these railroads had passenger traffic to or from San Francisco but they incorporated freight operations as well. Ferries played a big part in all the operations. Industries include grain, dairy, aggregate, warehousing and lumber.

DESIGN CONSTRAINTS

The space for the challenge is the area of a 4X8 [32 sq ft] but need not be limited to a rectangular space. See Byron Henderson's blog entry <https://www.layoutvision.com/why-waste-the-space-on-a-4x8> for ideas on using such a space.

For the challenge you can choose any scale and era. All plans should reflect the prototype as much as possible, but modeling in the modern era as if the facilities still existed is OK.

We'll be especially interested in the choices each participant makes: the scene chosen, what to include or leave out, how to operate the design, etc.

TO PARTICIPATE

It's easy to participate:

- 1) E-mail Bruce Morden (brucedmorden@gmail.com) to let him know you're interested in participating, and so you can get some extra maps and photos for doing your design.
- 2) Develop a layout design based on either of the two challenge locations, draw a simple plan, create an operation plan, and think about the choices you make.
- 3) Create a simple 5-8 minute presentation about your design that you can show at the meet in Santa Rosa on February 3, 2024.
- 3a) If you want to share anything additional about your plan, send us an additional PDF document and we'll put it on the meet website so other attendees can read it.
- 4) Plan to be part of a wrap-up session at the meet to compare and contrast the choices you all made.

Your submissions for the Design Challenges are **due no later than January 22, 2024**. Pull out your design tools and operations resources and let's have some fun!



*Petaluma & Santa Rosa locomotives #3 and #4 [ex SPMW #206 and SP #1903.
Locomotives had MU capability.*