

2023 FRRS/WPRM Opening Weekend

*Kerry Cochran
General Superintendent*

The Feather River Rail Society opened its doors for the 2023 operating season on Memorial Day weekend May 27th, 28th and 29th.

While the museum opened on May 4th for the public, the caboose trains started this Memorial Day weekend and will run until Labor Day weekend.

We started off the weekend with an engineer's meeting and training session Saturday morning with David Elems leading the training of what the requirements of each and every engineer, fireman and trainmen in the daily locomotive inspection process.

This included the required documents on a daily basis for each of the locomotive used. We must keep records to meet the FRRS and FRA requirements.

Once the engineer's meeting was over we all headed over to the WP 1503 for hands on training of the locomotive inspection process and record keeping. While this gave all of us the opportunity to get a refresher on startup and operation procedures.

This led us into the weekend caboose train operations of running the caboose trains for the public.



Don Nelson and Duane Vander Veen starting WP1503 on 5/28/23.

Photo by Kerry Cochran



Some of the visitors who rode the caboose train on Memorial Day.

Photo by Greg Elems

Saturday operation was a full train operation, with a complete run round the balloon track, with Sunday and Monday operations being push-pull run round the balloon track.

For a three day weekend, the public turnout was somewhat small we did a good business with visitors all day long each day. The weather was overcast most of the time with some rain off and on.

We have posted several photos of the opening weekend on the FRRS website and can be viewed in the Around the Museum 2023 gallery on WPLives.org.

I would like to take the time to thank the following FRRS friends and members for helping make this another great opening weekend:

- Greg Elems
- David Elems
- Don Nelson
- Ron Berriesford
- Charlie Spikes
- Duane Vander Veen
- Logan Beers
- Our museum store personnel, Ann Cary and Breckyn Shirley, along with Yngshi Feng for face painting.

Sorry if I missed someone.