

2024 NPRHA PRESERVATION GRANTS

By Harold Shannon



National Railway Historical Society, Promontory Chapter, Murray, Utah, ex-NP GP9 locomotive 317: \$5,000

The Promontory Chapter will use the grant money towards the acquisition of four idler wheelsets to replace the four traction motor combos that are currently under the locomotive. These combos are not needed for its static display and will be sold, along with some other internal components, to help recoup the high cost of transporting this locomotive across the country. The 317 will be on static display at the Inland Northwest Railway Museum at Reardan, Wash. Material and pictures provided by Derrick Klarr.

Crow Wing County Historical Society, Brainerd, Minn., ex-NP steam locomotive No. 8: \$5,000

The funds will be used to restore fireless steam locomotive No. 8, once used at the Brainerd tie treatment plant. The engine is currently on display at the Crow Wing County Fairgrounds; it and two accompanying tram cars will be sandblasted, patched, and repainted. The wood plank flooring, window casings, and windows in the cab will also be replaced. Material and pictures provided by Hillary Swanson.



Yakima Valley Rail & Steam Museum Association, Toppenish, Wash., ex-NP maintenance of way crane: \$5,000

Small tie crane, mounted on a motorcar trailer, originally built in the early 1900s. Although the wood parts are quite rotted, it is clearly marked NP. The metal parts are rusted, but mostly intact. The plan involves replacing the wood with oak as it was originally, sandblasting and painting the metal parts, and replacing all the bolts. The wheels and bearings will be refurbished, new cable installed, and a replacement of the lost tie hook will be made. It will be painted in the original industrial orange and black. Material and pictures provided by Roger O'Dell.

Other grants:

The Paradise Center, Paradise, Mont., roundhouse display area: \$5,000

The request is to assist in enlarging the display space to incorporate large historic items in a setting that enables them to reflect their original purpose and function, otherwise not feasible. The mini roundhouse is substantially complete, but it lacks siding. The Center plans to incorporate brick veneer on the front and sides of the house to provide a realistic appearance, and wood on the back to minimize cost. Local residents with historic items in their possession indicate a willingness to donate or put items on permanent display when they have a secure location. Material and pictures provided by Karen Thorson. ●