

1. Mat Thompson's F Units



The white flags on Northern Pacific F7 6013A, coupled with its sister units, 6014A and 6014C, mark the ballast train sitting in the Hoyt Street Yard as an Extra. It's 1957 so the units in the NP's freight scheme paint are starting to show wear although they will last into the 1970s.

The first NP F units numbered 6013 and 6014 were F3s added to the railroad's roster in 1947. In the early 50's the engines were renumbered and the new F7s were known as 2nd 6013 and 2nd 6014. The quick spotting difference between F3s and F7s is the ventilator grills. Instead of the full body length grills on F7s, F3s had three shorter grills separated by metal body panels.

The HO scale models are early offerings from Athearn's Genesis line. I installed Soundtraxx decoders, added extra flags, and weathered the engines. My Oregon Coast Railroad was focused on industrial switching so diesel lash-ups and long freights were an uncommon and interesting sight. *Mat Thompson, MMR*