
----- Original Message -----

From: "Crispin B. Hollinshead" <cbhollinshead@bigriverlines.com>

To: info@mendocinocog.org

Date: 11/28/2025 4:18 PM EST

Subject: RE: Skunk Train

MCOG members,

My name is Crispin B. Hollinshead. I live in Ukiah. I have been a train boy rail fan all my life. Railroads have a history of land development independent from their transportation division. Mendocino Railways is no different.

Except, of course, for the fact that they are not actually a common carrier railroad, and haven't been since 1993, when the last Northwester Pacific train passed through Willits, CA. Since then, the Skunk had tourist passenger service from Ft. Bragg to Willits, but that ended in 2013 with the most recent tunnel collapse.

I appreciate seeing the Skunk, either in Ft. Bragg or Willits, and it is a part of the county history. But the economic excesses of Mendocino Railways, pretending to be a railroad, are ridiculous. MCOG could clarify the issue, putting a stake in the heart of this lunacy, by deleting any recognition of the Skunk as a railroad in the County Transportation plan.

I request you do so. We have real problems to address.

Sincerely,

Crispin B. Hollinshead