

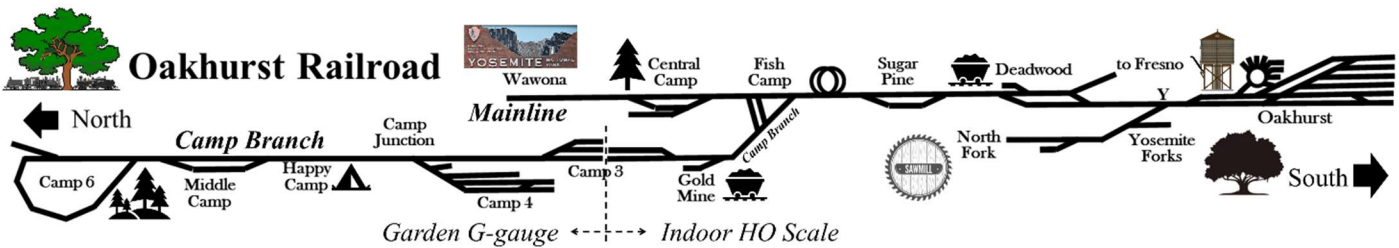
Oakhurst Railroad (Marty Bradley) – Layout Description for NMRA Surfliner 2024



The HO scale portion of the model railroad was featured in the July 2016 issue of Model Railroader.



The “connecting” garden railroad was added in the summer of 2016 and is an integral part of combined operations.



The Oakhurst Railroad is an HO scale & G-gauge model railroad running through the Sierra town of Oakhurst, California. It was featured in the July 2016 Model Railroader and the March 2024 cover of the NMRA Magazine.

It is a two level point-to-point railroad with a helix, an optional continuous run, and a “connection” with the outdoor garden railway. The HO indoor portion of the railroad is 8.5 ft x 11 ft with the helix in an adjacent closet. The G-gauge is a 40 ft x 50 ft L-shaped arrangement in the adjacent backyard.

Oakhurst Railroad (Marty Bradley) – Layout Description for NMRA Surfliner 2024

For operations, trains are put together in the Oakhurst yard and then travel to the logging or mining areas on the upper level and “connect” to the outside garden railway. Logs are taken from Camp 6 in the garden or Central Camp to the North Fork sawmill. Cut lumber and freight are taken to Oakhurst for interchange with a Southern Pacific branch line that connects to the mainline in Fresno. Passenger trains take guests to and from the Yosemite resort in Wawona and the campground in the garden at Happy Camp.

The operating session uses a timetable and train orders (TT&TO) and a 4:1 fast clock to simulate a complete day of train operations in about 3.5 hours. A combination of car cards with waybills and switchlists are used. Camp 3 is the exchange point where HO and G-gauge cars are physically swapped as they “continue” on their journeys. Operators each will run 1, 2, or 3 out-and-back trains in sequence from the daily train list that will be either inside (HO), outside (G), or transiting both. All jobs are “road jobs”.

Layout Summary

Name: Oakhurst Railroad

Scale: HO (1:87.1) standard gauge

Size: 8'-6" x 11' (+closet)

Prototype: Freelance

Theme: Logging, mining, and passengers

Locale: Sierras of California near Yosemite

Era: 1920's

Style: 2 level walk-in with helix

Mainline run: 88 feet point to point, 48 feet continuous

Minimum radius: 18"

Minimum turnout: no. 4

Maximum grade: 5 percent

Benchwork: 1x4 and 1x3 open grid

Height: 34" and 56"

Roadbed: Woodland Scenics N-scale Track-Bed

Track: Atlas code 83 sectional and flextrack

Scenery: Plaster cloth over foam and cardboard web

Backdrop: Instant Horizons background scenes over vinyl

Control: DCC (Digitrax Super Chief Xtra 5 amp w/DT402D and UT-4 controllers)

For more information:

Email: MKBradley@aol.com Facebook: “Oakhurst Railroad” Web page: www.oakhurstrailroad.com