

Tour Days 15-16 31 March & 1 April 2019

Hegang Coal Railway

31 March

Initial impressions were that the mine railway was very quiet. Some of this can be put down to our arrival on a Sunday. On Monday, there was more action but it was still quiet compared to my previous 2007 visit in steam days.

Those interested in the Hegang system are directed to Duncan Cotterill's excellent map from steam days. Although things have changed, it still provides an excellent navigation tool for the mine railways.

http://www.railography.co.uk/info/cn_info/maps/hegangmap.jpg



Sunday line up at Hegang Mine Railway Depot. We didn't see twin loco 1501 or any like it in action over 2 days.



China Rail DF4D 3272 leaves Hegang with a train to Jiamusi and beyond.



GKD1A 0103 propels its train towards three unsuspecting workers walking the track with their backs to the train. When the loco horn blared, they jumped to one side.



GKD1A 0103 was on rock waste tipping duties. New semi high-rise building dominate the skyline.



Returning with empty wagons for more rock.

1 April



Near the former mine railway passenger station at Jipei, loco 2313 takes empty wagons towards China Rail.



Electric 2319 works coal from Fuli Mine towards Hegang.



Electric 2313 hauls empty tipping wagons and coal wagons towards Fuli Mine.



Electric 2311 takes empty wagons to Junde Mine at the four-way junction south of Xingan Mine.



South of Xingan Mine, a diesel propels its train at the 4-way junction. We saw 2 of the 4 lines in use.



The diesels perform their roles on non-electrified lines, in this case tipping rock waste from the mine.

John Raby
1 April 2019