



The McCloud River Railroad was chartered in 1897 to commence construction at a connection with the California & Oregon Railroad at Mount Shasta, California, and to build east. The MR reached McCloud in 1901 and Bartle in 1905. Between 1921 to 1929, Pacific Gas and Electric built and abandoned a branch line southward from Bartle to support construction of several dams across the Pit River (this branch is not indicated separately on the map). Around 1931, the Great Northern Railroad built a branch line westward from its then-new Inside Gateway line at a point called Lookout Junction to connect with the MR at Hambone, about 10 miles northeast of Bartle. In 1955, the MR built a branch line south from Bartle to Burney, California, to service logging in that area; this line used the earlier PG&E grade for most of its length. Around 2005, the railroad abandoned the entire line except for the original 18 miles between McCloud and Mount Shasta, which operated briefly for excursions.

This image of the southern approach to the Bartle wye shows the red volcanic cinder often used as ballast on northeastern California railroads and stacks of recently removed ties.





In this northward view of the southern approach to the Bartle wye, the left branch heads west to Mount Shasta on C&O (now Union Pacific) mainline and the right branch heads east to the GN Inside Gateway.





Westward view of the northeast branch of the Bartle wye.





Eastward view of the western branch of the Bartle wye, where the MR arrived in 1905.





A shed and some rails along the MR grade at Bartle.