



The Southern Pacific-controlled Fernley & Lassen Railroad was constructed in 1912-1914 between Fernley, Nevada, where it connected with the Southern Pacific (original Central Pacific) mainline, and Westwood, California, where the Western Pacific would later build its Inside Gateway line in 1931. The F&L was constructed to provide rail access for the Red River Lumber Company in Westwood. The Red River Lumber Company was the world's largest electrical sawmill at the time. After 1931, the F&L could not compete with the WP line and was abandoned in 1978. Today, the 25 miles of grade between Susanville and Westwood is the Bizz Johnson National Recreation Trail.

The F&L grade ends here, at its junction with the WP (rails in distance). The WP used the F&L grade about 4 miles south of this point to Westwood. The Bizz Johnson Trail leaves the grade at this location and follows a path a quarter mile to Mason Station Trailhead, the western terminus of the trail. The actual Mason Station was presumably on the F&L, but I could find no information and there is no station at the trailhead.



This sign directs trail travelers off the F&L grade to the path to Mason Station Trailhead.



Eastward view of the F&L grade.



An old tie on the F&L grade near the WP rails (visible in distance).