

Sierra Central Railroad Operator Training

Signals



Basics

- Signals may be approach-lit – until you occupy the approach block, they will be dark
- Engineer sits on the right side of the locomotive – signals will be right of track centerline where possible
- Multiple targets on one signal
 - Top target = mainline
 - Lower target(s) = diverging routes
 - You need to know the territory and which tracks are mainline and which leg of a switch is the ‘diverging’ route
- Aspect – Indication
 - Different definitions by railroad – SP vs.s WP!
 - In general, if it is not red you can proceed
 - If it is **red, STOP!**

Eastbound at West Poe



Dark signals (approach-lit) – if you are this close you have to assume the signal system is down

Download a copy of this at:

http://www.smrhs.com/pdfs/resources/Signal_Cheat_Sheet.pdf

Signal Cheat Sheet

(Diverging is usually movement on to a siding or spur)

	Aspect—Name—SP(WP)	Indication-Action to take
	 Signal Red (Stop)	Stop
	 Signal Red (Stop) Diverging	Stop
	 Signal Green (Clear)	Proceed
	 Signal Red (Stop) Diverging	Stop
	 Signal Red (Stop)	Stop
	 Signal Green (Clear) Diverging	Proceed
	 Approach Signal Yellow	Proceed at medium speed/ prepare to stop at next signal
	 Signal Red (Stop) Diverging	Stop
	 Signal Red (Stop)	Stop
	 Approach Signal Yellow Diverging	Proceed at restricted speed
	 Signal Red (Stop)	Stop
	 Signal Red (Stop) Diverging	Stop
	 Signal Red over Lunar (None)	Proceed without stopping at restricted speed on other than main track - non-signal territory
	 Signal Red (Stop)	Stop
	 Approach Signal Yellow Diverging	Proceed at restricted speed
	 Signal Dark (SP)	Stop

RCR 12/2015



Signal Cheat Sheet

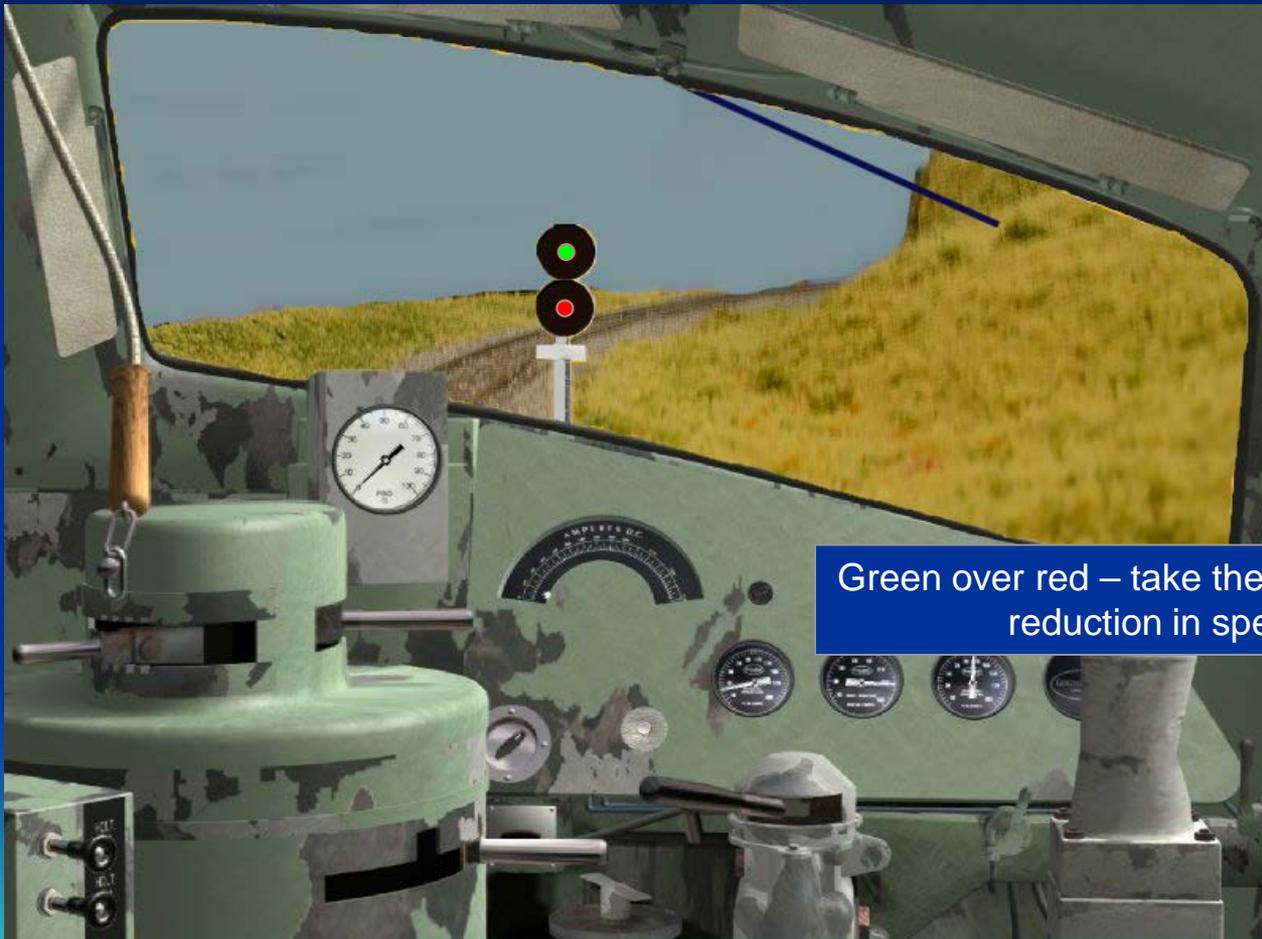
(Diverging is usually movement on to a siding or spur)

Aspect—Name—SP(WP)	Indication-Action to take
 Flashing Red (Restricting)	Proceed without stopping not exceeding restricted speed (SP) Proceed at yard speed in accordance with specific timetable instructions (WP)
 Approach Medium (SP,WP) Flashing Yellow	Proceed prepared to pass next signal at not exceeding medium speed (SP) Proceed, approaching next signal at Medium speed (WP)
 Diverging Approach (WP)	Proceed on diverging route, approaching next signal prepared to stop, observe prescribed speed through turnout
 Block signal yellow over green (SP)	Reduce to medium speed and proceed next signal indicates "proceed on diverging route"
 Advance Approach (WP)	Proceed, approaching next signal at prescribed turnout speed. Train exceeding medium speed must at once reduce to that speed.

Source:
Southern Pacific Signal Rules
Effective July 1, 1960



Eastbound at West Poe



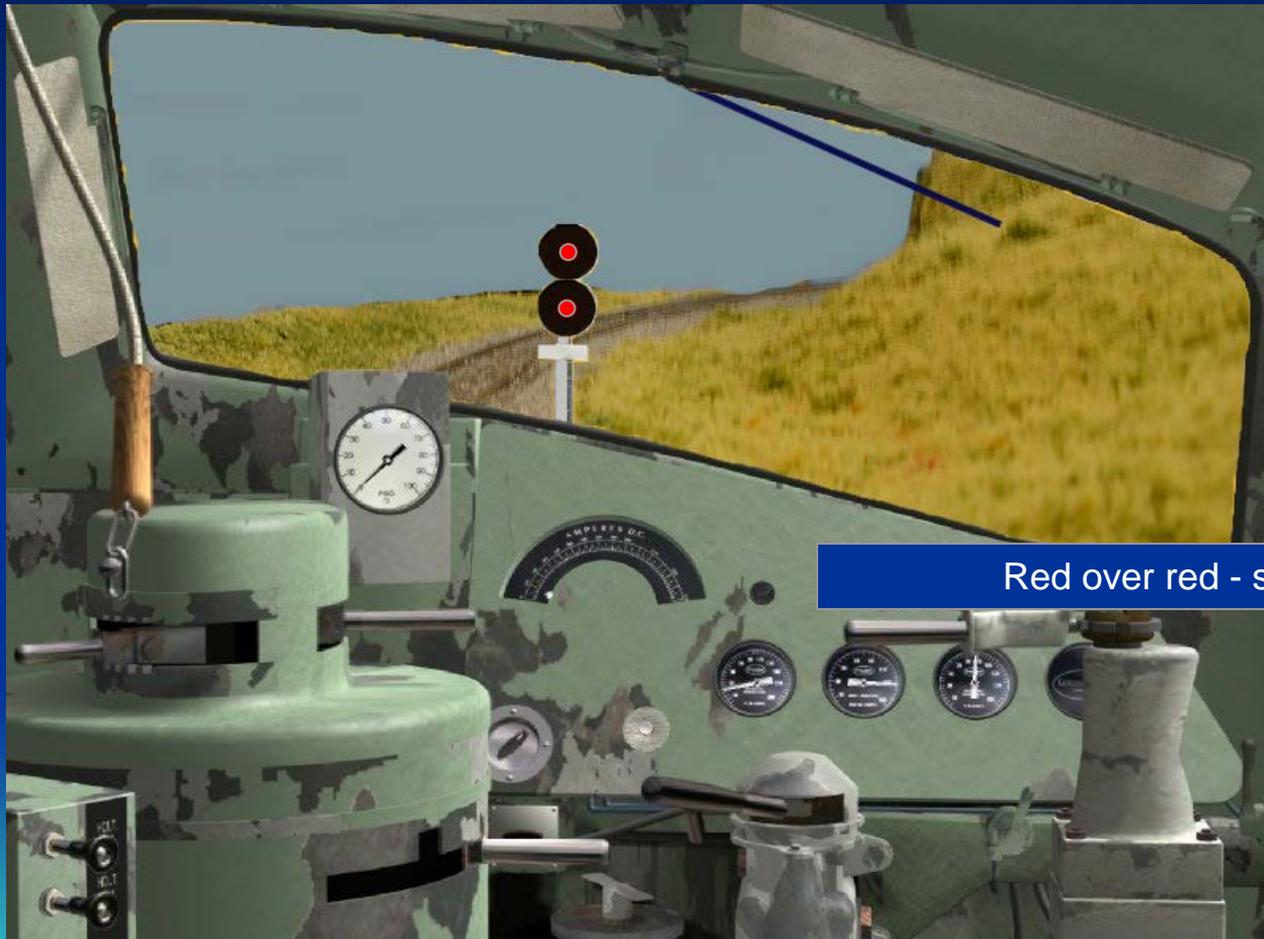
Green over red – take the main with no reduction in speed

Eastbound at West Poe



Yellow over red – take the main at reduced speed, prepare to stop at the next signal

Eastbound at West Poe



Red over red - stop

Eastbound at West Poe



Red over green – take the diverging route

Eastbound at West Poe



Red over yellow – take the diverging route at reduced speed

Westbound at West Poe



- Left target=left track
- Right target=right track
- Approach-lit

Westbound at West Poe



- Left target=left track=proceed
- Right target=right track=stop

Westbound at West Poe



- Left target=left track=proceed at reduced speed
- Right target=right track=**stop**

Westbound at West Poe



- Left target=left track=stop
- Right target=right track=proceed

Westbound at West Poe



- Left target=left track=stop
- Right target=right track=proceed at reduced speed