

How many trains are currently operating on the MN&S Line; what length are these trains and what type of cargo do they carry?

From Canadian Pacific:

Canadian Pacific is the only company running trains on the MN&S line today. TCW has trackage rights, but is not currently running trains on the MN&S line. The Canadian Pacific (CP) operates one local assignment, round trip, 5 days per week on this property. The length of the train is variable, as a number of the commodities on the line are seasonal in nature. Typically, the size ranges between 10-30 cars per day. Generally, the commodities going through this area include salt (water softening and deicing), plastic pellets, scrap materials (mostly metal), lumber, brick and cement. Due to the downturn in the economy and construction, in particular, volumes over the last two years have been low. Volumes tend to be heaviest in April - October during the building season. Most of the salt moves in the fall, when companies decide to build up their inventories before winter; however, a snowy and icy winter can trigger additional loads if deicing demand gets high. In addition, the line serves a transload/warehouse facility in Bloomington which can take any type of commodity (including food grade), so the commodity mix can change easily depending upon the client using the warehouse.