

2014 Bonneville Preview: Danny Thompson Cruises To A 317mph



Just back from his 317.756mph run for Danny Thompson's Challenger 2.5 streamliner at this week's test and tune leading up to the 2014 Speed Week next month, we talked with him to get his impressions.

Thompson has two goals: to beat the Speed Demon speed of 437.183 mph and to take the Challenger 2.5 to 500 mph. "Everything went perfectly last week," says Danny. "There is nothing I would change on the car, other than more horsepower, which we're going to take care of this week."

With only three weeks until Speed Week, Danny and his crew will tear the car down to check for anything unusual, but he's not expecting much to need attention. "All of the systems worked out well, and we had no problems," he says. "Of course we were held to three miles, and so I used the runs to shift into all three gears, pop the chutes, and go thru everything I would do on a full five mile pass."

Everything from the air shifts to the chutes, to the "velvet smooth steering" worked better than expected according to Danny. Richard Catton will now tear down the engines and change a couple of things for a bit more horsepower, then the car will be put back together and prepared for Speed Week. Of course HOT

ROD will be there in force to give live updates on who's running what and how they're doing.

"I sure wish we could go five miles instead of three, but for what it was the car ran perfectly," says Danny. There was plenty more power, just not enough length to do it, but that can wait until August 9-15 at the salt flats when we should see some great cars and fantastic times. For more info Danny Thompson's website is [HERE](#). *Photos: Holly Martin*