

## 6. Alex Belida's D&RGW MoW Cars



In working for my Master Builder-Cars certificate, I looked for some unique pieces of rolling stock. When I came upon plans for two Denver and Rio Grande Western narrow gauge Maintenance of Way cars, I was sold. The cars were #06051, a “Rail and Tie” Car, and Car ##06092, a “Wheel and Tie” car ([photo above](#)).

For both, I started by 3D printing scale 30'x7 1/2' undercarriage frames per prototype plans and added 3D printed bolsters, a train line, brake cylinder and levers. From that point on, I used scale stripwood to construct the needlebeams, floorboards, end walls, side rails, end sills and upper elements, using scores of hex-bolt-washers and nut-bolt-washers. Stakes were handcut. I added side mount stirrups and handgrabs per plan along with air hoses and uncoupling levers. Decals duplicating the prototype were added and the cars were painted the actual prototype grey color and weathered to reflect realistic MoW wear.



A load of weathered rails was added on the lower level of the “rail and tie” car ([photo above right](#)) along with handcut ties in the upper rack plus a barrel and crate and some chain. The “wheel and tie” car also received handcut ties, a load of HOn3 wheelsets and a kitbashed handcart as shown in the prototype plan.



The model of the “rail and tie” car was prepared mainly according to a plan drawn by Herman Darr in 1981. But additional info came from prototype photos, and from W.F. “Wes” Pfarner of the *Friends of the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic RR*, who provided me with additional details.

The “wheel and tie” model ([photo above](#)) was prepared according to a plan published in Robert Sloan’s book, *“A Century and Ten of D&RGW Narrow Gauge Freight Cars, 1871 to 1981”* along with more details from W.F. Pfarner. **Alex Belida, MMR**