

3. ALEX BELIDA'S COWCATCHER



Several years ago, on a trip west, I visited the Northern Nevada Railway in Ely, Nevada. In addition to seeing a live steam engine operating in the yard and admiring old freight cars, I was able to explore the entire facility, including the restoration shop. I took many photos, including this one of an old cowcatcher, propped up on what looked like some old wooden tie pieces. The cowcatcher, in the unlikely case that you don't know, was a device mounted at the front of old steam locomotives to deflect obstacles on the track that might otherwise damage or derail a train.

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