

## Heisler #3 Water Tank Repairs

The following information was extrapolated from Facebook posts in whole or in part.

### January 22, 2025: Two separate posts included the first two photos.

Eric Wunz posted *“Mr. Tholen has started welding in the new pieces on the #3s water tank. Looking good. Not easy accurately replicating the historical appearance, appreciate his efforts to do so”*.

Jim Grigsby wrote *“We talked about keeping the historic dent in this corner, but it would have been too complicated. We don't know the story of the dent but it was there when #3 came back from Idaho”*.

Taylor Rush responded *“I think she got the big corner dent when she rolled on her side into the creek in the 1920s”*.

### February 9, 2025: Included the third photo.

Eric Wunz posted *“More steel has been welded in the #3s water tank. Good job replicating the rivets”*.



### February 14, 2025: Included the photos below.

Eric Wunz posted *“More work happening on the Heisler; other corner removed and the back large piece is fabricated and on site”*.



### February 23, 2025: Included the next three photos.

Eric Wunz posted *“Progress on the #3 water tank. More bracing to be installed on the inside”*.





**March 10, 2025: Included the following three photos.**

Eric Wunz posted *"Doni was up today, last side piece is welded in and he is working on the internal bracing. Had to cut an access and ventilation hole and we agreed to keep it for future access. The lid will bolt down so it can be opened up as needed. With the internal bracing in it is a tight squeeze inside"*.



**March 27, 2025: Included the two photos on right.**

Eric Wunz posted *"We were able to hang the rear sand box on the Heisler today. Doni got it bolted on and all that is left is to paint and letter. I appreciate all his work on this and it is looking great"*.



**April 6, 2025: Included the next three photos.**

Eric Wunz posted *"Heisler cab sides and water tank are painted and lettered. I traced the lettering before work started and cut the stencil to that, so it is the same as before"*.



**May 11, 2025: Included the four photos below. Kim Svaty posted the photos.**





**May 17, 2025: Included the single photo at right.**

Eric Wunz posted *"Rainy day on Sat so did some painting on the Heisler, including the smokebox and stack with high temp paint"*.



**May 28, 2025: Included the three photos below.**

Eric Wunz posted *"Many thanks for Tom Young driving over to help out on the #3. Passed orifice test (air compressor output) and got some of the steam leaks fixed. Still some leaks at the injectors and the brake stand needs an internal cleaning as it is not acting correctly. I will be back tomorrow to hopefully address the above issues"*.



**June 9, 2025: Included the next two photos below.**

Eric Wunz posted *"Found my book on A-1 brake systems and worked some more on the Heisler's brake stand. Fired it up to run the air compressor and tested it with the train consist. Some more adjustments and now acting properly. Still has an extended blow at the brake stand in lap after reducing brake pipe pressure that does not affect functionality"*.



**June 10, 2025: Included a single photo.**

Eric Wunz posted *"Many people are excited that the #3 is returning to active service. A reminder that wood needs to be split, fire train needs to run behind it, and the ROW fire prevention work needs to be completed. Contact me if you can help out with any of the above (and the trainmaster to run the fire train)"*.



**June 14, 2025**

Our beloved Heisler #3 was happily back on the rails where she showed her strength and her ever-present majesty to the delight of all the passengers.

Sporting a newly repaired water tank and a bright new paint job, she graced the rails of her home. We look forward to having her front and center for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

At a youthful 110 years old, she continues to show us all how powerful she is.

Her voice was once again heard loud and clear!