

The Prototype

The Buffalo Creek railway was a 6-mile-long short line in Buffalo, NY jointly owned by the Erie Railroad and the Lehigh Valley Railroad. As the road's herald suggests, its cars were primarily used for flour loading. The stenciling of their cars reflected this usage as well, with "weevil control" and "do not contaminate" labeling in bold letters to the left of the door.

Two orders of American Car & Foundry boxcars were received by the Buffalo Creek, each consisting of 500 cars. The first batch were welded-side cars with a 10'-5" inside height and 7' wide Youngstown doors, received in 1953. Another batch was delivered in 1956, similar to the first with the exception of having riveted sides.

Buffalo Creek also received cars from Pullman-Standard in this same timeframe. Please note that the ACF cars have significant lettering differences, most notably the typefaces within the herald.

These cars were painted boxcar red with black underframes, trucks, and ends. Roofs were likely left unpainted, galvanized steel with overspray along the edges.

Selected Equipment Register Car Counts:

	7/53	1/55	4/57	1/65
1500-1999	500	498	497	380
2500-2999	-	-	499	493



Nearly-new Buffalo Creek 1563 is spotted on a siding in Saginaw, MI, circa 1953. This is one of the welded-side boxcars from the series 1500-1999. Norman H. Wilder photo.

The Decals

These decals have been created by digitally tracing lettering from actual photographs of in-service freight cars. Printed by Cartograf, these decals capture even the smallest lettering of the prototype.

Suitable Models

The 2500-series cars can be modeled with a Atlas (formerly Branchline) 7' door ACF boxcar. At present, no models are available for the 1500-series welded-side cars, but these could be modeled by removing the rivet detail from an Atlas kit and replacing it with Archer weld seam decals.

Basic Decal Application

Prepare model with a glossy surface prior to decal application. Cut the desired decal from the sheet. Dip in warm water for about 10 seconds. Set decal on clean cloth to remove excess water. Place decal and backing paper near final location on model. Slide decal film from backing and onto the model. Move into desired location. Once pleased with the location, remove remaining water and trapped air with clean cloth or swab. Re-wet and reposition if needed. Once completely satisfied with the position of the decal, use setting solution of your choice if desired. Seal with clear flat and place into service!



Special Test lettering applied to this series only.

"Pntd.Ber.3-53"

See our website for other available HO scale decal sets.

This product intended for ages 14+.

If you are unsatisfied with this product for any reason, please return it for exchange or refund.

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