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City of Casper announces plans to return Standard Oil No. 1 locomotive to Casper

The Ft. Caspar Museum project will preserve important community history.

Casper, Wyoming (June 1, 2026) – City of Casper officials announced plans to bring Standard Oil No. 1 back to Casper. The locomotive was acquired by the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden, Colorado in 1962, after it was retired from refinery service. Over the past year, Fort Caspar Museum volunteer, author, and local historian, Con Trumbull, has worked closely with the Colorado Railroad Museum to facilitate the locomotive’s future and potential return.

“We are excited about what this project means for Casper history, and Con’s dedication and persistence have been instrumental in moving this project forward,” said Steve Gainer, Fort Caspar Museum supervisor. “He recognized this locomotive’s historical importance to Casper years ago and has devoted an extraordinary amount of time and effort toward bringing it home. He is very committed to preserving our community’s history.”

Built in 1920 by the American Locomotive Company’s Cooke Works in Paterson, New Jersey, the 0-4-0T steam locomotive was originally constructed for the Standard Oil Company of Indiana for switching tank cars at the Casper refinery, once considered the largest oil refinery in the world. “Casper is also one of Wyoming’s most historically significant railroad communities yet currently lacks a prominent public railroad artifact representing that heritage,” noted Gainer.

The plans call for placing the locomotive near the entrance of Fort Caspar Museum as part of a phased and larger interpretive effort focused on Casper’s railroad, refinery, and industrial history. According to Gainer, Fort Caspar Museum and its community partners will kick off an initial \$15,000 fundraising goal to cover transportation, placement preparation, interpretive planning, and the beginning stages of cosmetic restoration and preservation work costs.

“Returning Standard Oil No. 1 to Casper is an opportunity to preserve and publicly interpret an important chapter of our community’s industrial and transportation history,” said Gainer. “This project is not simply about displaying a locomotive. It is about reconnecting the community with a tangible artifact tied directly to the refinery, the railroad, and the people who helped shape Casper’s identity during the twentieth century.”

Additional details regarding the project and future fundraising opportunities will be released as planning progresses. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Ft. Caspar Museum.