REID, Greg 24 December 2019

Designation	Accident Location	Accident Due to
Driver	Jumperkine	Train Collision

Driver Greg Reid died when his train headed by Pacific National locomotive NR80 collided with the rear of a stationary loaded grain train at Jumperkine in the Avon valley adjacent to Bells Rapids and the Walyunga National Park. Greg died when the rearmost grain hopper rode up over his cab causing extensive damage as the result of the collision. It is believed that Greg Reid was from New Zealand.

Driver dies in train crash
Driver dies in train crash near Bells Rapids, north-east of Perth, as freight train crashes into grain train
WA Police have confirmed a train driver has died after a freight train was driven into the back of a grain train north-east of Perth in the early hours of Tuesday morning, disrupting rail services into the city.

KEY POINTS:

- Aerial footage showed train wreckage strewn across several tracks
- Multiple investigations are underway and a coronial report is being prepared
- The crash has disrupted rail services within WA and may impact the Indian Pacific

The rail operator, Arc Infrastructure, said the train crash occurred about 2:00am in Jumperkine in the Avon Valley, about 25 kilometres from Perth CBD.

A Pacific National freight train ran into the back of a stationary grain train and aerial footage from the crash site showed wreckage strewn across multiple tracks.

One rail car could be seen standing in the air with the Pacific National locomotive pushed underneath it.

WA Police have confirmed a train driver has died after a freight train was driven into the back of a grain train north-east of Perth in the early hours of Tuesday morning, disrupting rail services into the city.

A large pile of grain could also be seen spilling from the wreckage.

A police spokesman said the driver died as a result of the crash and a report would now be prepared for the coroner.

Multiple investigations underway

The railway line is the main freight artery from Perth to the eastern states and there is no word yet on when it will be reopened.

The crash is in the vicinity of the popular Bells Rapids tourist site.

Forensic officers are at the scene to the north of Bells Rapids in the Walyunga National Park.

The Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator (ONRSR) has deployed staff to the scene and is investigating the crash site, along with investigators from the Australian Transport Safety Bureau.

Forensic officers are at the scene to the north of Bells Rapids in the Walyunga National Park.

The Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator (ONRSR) has deployed staff to the scene and is investigating the crash site, along with investigators from the Australian Transport Safety Bureau.

A spokesman said the ONRSR had begun an investigation to determine whether or not there had been a breach of national rail safety laws.

He said the investigation was in its early stage so it was too early to speculate on the cause of the accident.

Arc Infrastructure, formerly Brookfield Rail, runs a network of freight lines which transport mainly grain throughout the south-west of the state.

One of their biggest customers is CBH — Western Australia's grain cooperative.

WA Rail Tram and Bus Union secretary Craig McKinley said WA's rail freight industry was a close community and would be hurting at the news of the accident.

"We are a family and we all feel the pain," he said in a statement.

"Our hearts and thanks also go out to the recovery crews who will work this Christmas."

Train delays into Perth expected

The affected rail line also carries passenger trains linking Perth with the eastern states and with major inland towns such as Kalgoorlie and Northam.

Passengers on the Indian Pacific, Prospector, AvonLink and MerredinLink trains are being told to expect delays.

WA's Public Transport Authority said it had replaced the AvonLink and MerredinLink services with a bus, as well as a 250-kilometre stretch of the Prospector journey to Kalgoorlie.

An Indian Pacific train is scheduled to depart Sydney for Perth on Christmas Day and arrive on Saturday afternoon.

A spokeswoman for the train's operator said it was monitoring the situation.

It is unclear at this stage when timetables for the passenger services will return to normal. (520)

NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE
PACIFIC NATIONAL

In the early hours of 24 December 2019, PN train 7MP5, worked by locos NR80 & 59, crashed into the rear of CBH grain train 2K66, which was stationary at Jumperkine. Sadly, the driver of the PN train was killed in the collision, no other crew were on this train. The grain train had stopped on the up main line at Jumperkine to allow the passage of PN train 3PM4 on the down main. No injuries were reported to the two drivers on the grain working.

The accident caused significant disruptions to services through the Avon Valley. With the up main being blocked at Jumperkine, and the passing loop fouled by wreckage, Arc Infrastructure was required to institute single line working between Millendon Junction and Moondyne using the down main line. With the scene

being surrounded by heavy vegetation, and also being in a national park, recovery has been a slow process. NR6 conveyed a heavy lift road crane to the site on 11 January to assist in the necessary work.

Reports into the accident are in the process of being prepared by a number of bodies. The preliminary report of the ATSB can be accessed via this link.

https://www.atsb.gov.au/publications/investigation_reports/2019/rair/ro-2019-022/ (521)

The following is a summary of the ongoing investigation of this incident.

Rail safety investigations & reports

Collision between freight train 7MP5 and grain train 2K66, at Jumperkine, Western Australia, on 24 December 2019

Investigation number:	RO-2019-022
Status:	Active
Phase:	Evidence collection

Summary

The ATSB is investigating a collision between a freight train and grain train at Jumperkine, Western Australia.

At about 0200 (WST) on 24 December 2019, a freight train (operated by Pacific National) collided with the rear of a grain train (operated by Watco) at Jumperkine, Western Australia. The freight train locomotive cabin was substantially damaged and the driver fatally injured.

As part of the investigation, the ATSB will examine the rolling stock and track infrastructure layout, interview personnel, analyse the train data logger, and obtain relevant documentation for analysis. A final report will be released at the end of the investigation.

Should a critical safety issue be identified during the course of the investigation, the ATSB will immediately notify those affected and seek safety action to address the issue.

General details (Report)

Date:	24 December 2019
Time:	0200 WST
Location:	Jumperkine
State:	Western Australia
Report Status:	Pending
Anticipated Completion:	4th Quarter 2020
Investigation Status:	Active
Investigation Level:	Defined
Investigation Phase:	Evidence Collection
Occurrence Category:	Accident
Highest Injury Level:	Fatal

Train 1 Details

Line Operator:	Arc Infrastructure
Train Operator:	Pacific National
Train Registration:	7MP5
Type of Operation:	Freight

Sector:	Freight
Damage to train:	Substantial
Departure Point:	Melbourne, Victoria
Destination:	Perth, Western Australia

Train 2 Details

Line Operator:	Arc Infrastructure
Train Operator:	WATCO
Train Registration:	2K66
Type of Operation:	Grain
Sector:	Freight
Damage to train:	Substantial *(522)*

HISTORIA NOSTRA VIA PEREGRINARI FERREA
FOR ALL WHO ARE INTERESTED IN RAILWAYS