

Collision kills trainworker

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A BNSF Railway employee was killed Friday morning when the worker drove a high-rail truck into a parked train north of Ash Fork.

The victim has been identified as 41-year-old Jason Lacy of Williams.

"We're investigating the possibility that he was doing a track inspection," said Coconino County Sheriff's Office spokesperson Gerry Blair.

Investigators said they believe he might have been distracted for some unknown reason.

The accident is now said to have happened between about 5:45 a.m. and 6:15 a.m., some 14 miles outside of Ash Fork, near where Sevens Ranch Road intersects with the train tracks. The sun was rising at the time of the accident.

The train's conductors said they didn't feel any impact and didn't notice there was an accident until they tried to depart and had brake problems. That's when they discovered the wreckage behind the train.

"We don't know what was going on behind the wheel," said Sgt. John Jamison. "All we know is that the truck was moving along at a pretty good rate of speed and just completely rear ended a stopped train."

"This is very sad and unfortunate," he added.

The accident is still being investigated and an autopsy will be performed.

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