***UPDATE*** One dead, one injured in train wreck near Truxton

A Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway train collided with a train pushing maintenance equipment belonging to Herzog Railroad Services Tuesday afternoon in a remote canyon near Truxton. One man was killed and another had to be airlifted to a Las Vegas hospital. (Photo courtesy of Mohave County Sheriff’s Office)

TRUXTON – One man died and another suffered serious injuries from a train collision Tuesday afternoon in a remote canyon, Mohave County Sheriff’s Office reported.

Walter Erickson, 63, of Lenexa, Kansas, was pronounced dead upon arrival. Matthew Thompson, 26, of Salem, Missouri, was airlifted to University Medical Center in Las Vegas, where he was listed in stable condition.

Deputies were called out to the accident around 3 p.m. Tuesday and saw one train belonging to Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway with significant front-end damage.

The other train had been pushing maintenance equipment belonging to Herzog Railroad Services, and the equipment had been derailed. Both the deceased and injured man were Herzog employees.

All occupants of the BNSF train were accounted for and no other injuries were reported.
First responders work together to get Matthew Thompson, 26, of Salem, Missouri, away from the train wreckage so he could airlifted to a Las Vegas hospital. (Photo courtesy of Mohave County Sheriff's Office)

Sheriff Doug Schuster expressed condolences to the family, and said circumstances contributing to the cause of the accident will be investigated by the National Transportation Safety Board.

“Mohave County Sheriff’s Office is here to support NTSB in the investigation of the accident and will be conducting our own independent investigation regarding the loss of life,” Schuster said in a statement.

The sheriff thanked the Arizona Department of Public Safety, American Medical Response, Hualapai Nation Emergency Services, Mohave County and Arizona Department of Transportation for their support.

Information provided by MCSO

**ORIGINAL POST**

TRUXTON - One man was dead on scene and another was airlifted by Department of Public Safety Ranger Helicopter after a train collision outside of Truxton near mile marker 91 on Route 66 Tuesday afternoon, according to Mohave County Sheriff's Department and Hualapai Nation Emergency Services.
When MCSO deputies arrived on scene, one train was derailed and another received significant damage.

Hualapai Nation Emergency Services responded with police, fire, adult detention and code enforcement personnel and equipment. Along with DPS and MCSO, BNSF police were on scene.

The investigation is ongoing. National Transportation Safety Board has been notified.

Follow kdminer.com as more information becomes available.

Information provided by Mohave County Sheriff's Department and Hualapai Nation Emergency Services


**Herzog Rail worker killed in Arizona collision**

- **By News-Press Now**  Jun 6, 2018

KINGMAN, Arizona — One Herzog Railroad Services worker was killed and another was hurt seriously in a train collision that occurred Tuesday in rural northwest Arizona.

A spokesman for St. Joseph-based Herzog said 63-year-old Walter W. Erickson of Lenexa, Kansas, was killed in the accident. Erickson attended Savannah High School and studied at Missouri Western State University.

The employee who was seriously injured was identified as 26-year-old Matthew C. Thompson of Salem, Missouri.

The Mohave County Sheriff’s Office said the collision happened northeast of Kingman, Arizona. Deputies said they responded to a report of the accident outside of Truxton, Arizona, west of Flagstaff, on tracks owned by BNSF Railway.
Upon arrival at the scene, deputies said they discovered that one train had derailed and the other had sustained major damage.

Thompson was taken away from the scene by an Arizona Department of Public Safety Ranger helicopter.

Officials with BNSF said its southern mainline between Southern California and Chicago remained closed Wednesday due to the collision. A BNSF spokeswoman said one locomotive had derailed but was upright, and that two freight cars also had derailed.

An investigation continues into the circumstances, according to authorities.


**Authorities: 1 killed in collision of 2 trains in Arizona**

*The Associated Press*
June 06, 2018 09:37 PM
Updated June 06, 2018 09:38 PM

TRUXTON, ARIZ.

One person was killed and another injured after a BNSF Railway train and a train pushing maintenance equipment collided on the freight railroad's tracks in a remote area of northwestern Arizona, authorities said Wednesday.

The wreck occurred Tuesday afternoon near Truxton, Arizona, a small community 103 miles (166 kilometers) west of Flagstaff, according to the Mohave County Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff's officials said the dead man and injured man both were employees of Herzog Railroad Services.

Walter Erickson, 63, of Lenexa, Kansas, was pronounced dead at the scene while Matthew Thompson, 26, of Salem, Missouri was airlifted to a Nevada hospital with serious injuries but was listed in stable condition, according to sheriff's officials.
They said all occupants of the BNSF train were accounted for and no other injuries were reported.

An after-hours call to St. Joseph, Missouri-based Herzog for comment on the crash wasn't immediately returned Wednesday evening.

BNSF spokeswoman Lena Kent said the National Transportation Safety Board will investigate the cause of the crash, which left the BNSF freight train with significant front-end damage and derailed several cars on the Herzog train.

Mohave County Sheriff Doug Schuster said his office would be conducting its own independent investigation into the fatal crash.

The wreck and the closing of BNSF's double-track southern main line in that area forced Amtrak to use charter buses to carry train passengers between Flagstaff and Los Angeles. Amtrak's passenger trains use freight railroad tracks in most parts of the United States.

Amtrak spokesman Marc Magliari said the busing of passengers on the passenger railroad's Southwest Chief route between Chicago and Los Angeles would continue until BNSF reopened its tracks at the wreck site.