



For Immediate Release

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Freight Operator Northwestern Pacific Railroad Co. to Conduct Positive Train Control Testing in Santa Rosa

Freight operator Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company will be testing its Positive Train Control (PTC) system in the Santa Rosa area next week. The PTC testing is being conducted to meet Federal Railroad Administration requirements.

Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company, which operates on portions of track owned by Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART), has completed most of its overnight testing in the Petaluma, Cotati and Rohnert Park areas and will be moving north into Santa Rosa. All freight testing is conducted overnight when SMART trains are not operating.

During this phase of the freight operator's testing, the locomotive will use the train horn only on a limited basis at the 3rd St., Guerneville Rd. and Steele Ln. crossings in Santa Rosa. Freight PTC testing will be conducted on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Sundays between 9:30 p.m. to 4:00 a.m., and Fridays and Saturdays between 9:30 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. and will continue through May, depending on test results.

Please check SMART's website, www.SonomaMarinTrain.org for updates on the freight testing schedule in your area.

Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company estimates that it will take up to six months to complete the PTC testing.

SMART reminds the public to be alert and aware at all railroad crossings and near railroad tracks and trains. For more rail safety tips, visit SMART's safety website at www.BeTrackSmart.org.

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