

Train Derailment Blocks Trans-Siberian Railway, Sparks Forest Fire

May 31, 2024



Social media

Traffic along the Trans-Siberian Railway was partially [disrupted](#) on Friday after a cargo train flew off the tracks, crashing into trees and setting a nearby forest on fire, the local rail operator said.

A total of 29 cars carrying coal were derailed at 2:30 p.m. local time in Far East Russia's Amur region, causing damage to electrical lines, police investigators [said](#), adding that no one was injured in the incident.

"Railway traffic is temporarily suspended along the stretch," the local subsidiary of the state-owned Russian Railways said, referring to route between the villages of Seletkan and Ledyanaya, around 170 kilometers north of the regional capital Blagoveshchensk.

A video posted to social media [showed](#) upturned train cars, as well as a nearby forest burning in smoke and flames.

Police launched a criminal investigation into safety violations and said they were looking into the cause of the derailment. Authorities did not say whether they suspected foul play was to blame.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2024/05/31/train-derailment-blocks-trans-siberian-railway-sparks-forest-fire-a85285>