

The Crusher

The Crusher is the local industry switcher in San Jose. The following is, in approximate order, the jobs the Crusher will complete during the day.

First trick: Goes on duty at West San Jose. Cuts/fills the w/b Perishable for hot reefer traffic only.

Runs to WP Jct. to pick up interchange cars including coal loads for the Cement Train. Drops all cars except coal at Mac St. Yard. Runs to SP Xing with coal loads, fills Cement Train under direction of Trainmaster. Picks up Espee interchange and return to Mac St. Yard. Drops I/C and any reefers. Picks up San Jose / WP Jct. local cars. Runs to WP Jct., switches industries. Note: cars must be blocked for spotting leaving Mac St. Yard, there is no runaround track at WP Jct. Returns to Mac St. Yard. Power to the house for servicing.

Second trick: Originates at Mac St. Yard and switches local industries. Drops cars at Mac St. Yard, picks up local traffic for W. San Jose. Runs to W. San Jose, switches local industries and returns. Picks up Espee interchange. Runs to SP Xing, S/O interchange. Cuts coal empties from Cement Train when it returns, runs to WP Jct., sets out MTs, and returns to Mac St. Yard. Picks up fill for E/B Perishable and runs to W. San Jose. Cuts/fills E/B Perishable at W. San Jose, runs to Mac St., drops reefers and returns to W. San Jose.

**Employee notes on the management version: It takes too long to sort out reefers for the Perishable. If there is a block of reefers already standing ready to go this will work, but it doesn't usually happen. More likely he drops a car or two off and goes on his merry way.

Usually what the Crusher does is wait 'til the Perishable blows by, then we collect everything at the crossing and drag it into Mac St., go over to the Junction, collect the coal loads and then work with the Cementipede.

Once the Cementipede is out of town, we sort out the reefers and take the appropriate cars to Mac St., waddle over to WP Jct. with anything going that way, sort the junction, drag stuff back to Mac St., takes SP and West San Jose local stuff out and deliver it. Then we hang waiting for the Cementipede to get back down the hill so we can take the coal cars back through Mac St. [If we're fast or he's late we can slip over to The Club next to Bekins and can tip back a cold one no matter what Rule G says.]

In general, the Crusher, even though it is on his list, does not have that much interaction with the Perishable. And Mac St. has not been much interested in the Crusher delivering to Brooks Chocolate or engine service or any other place that would get in his way and has switched those cars himself – but your YM might see it differently. Good Luck.

Bill
(Regular crew on this job)