UPDATED NEWS RELEASE | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | July 3, 2021

Vehicle/Train Crash West of Grand Forks, ND

What: Injury crash

Where: 17th Street NE & 17th Avenue NE (approximately 4 miles west of Grand Forks, ND)

When: 07/02/2021 at approximately 9:10 AM

Road Conditions: Good, gravel surface

Weather Conditions: Sunny

Crash Involvement: Vehicle/Train

Type of Crash: Angle

Agencies Involved: NDHP, Grand Forks County Sheriff’s Office, Thompson Fire, Altru Ambulance

Vehicle No. 1: 2021 Ram 3500 pickup truck
Driver No. 1: Ryan Wagner, age 34; of Langdon, ND; life-threatening injuries
Restraints: Seat belt in use, air bags deployed
Charges: None

NARRATIVE: Wagner was driving the Ram pickup south on 17th Street NE, approaching the intersection with 17th Avenue NE and a rail crossing situated just to the north of the intersection. As the Ram crossed the rails, the left side of the Ram was struck by the front of a westbound BNSF train. This caused the Ram to break apart and overturn. Wagner was transported to Altru Hospital by ambulance with life-threatening injuries.

The rail crossing is marked with crossbucks and a yield sign. The BNSF train consisted of one locomotive and eighty-five empty hopper cars. The locomotive was moderately damaged. No train crew members were injured.

The crash remains under investigation by the Highway Patrol.
For More Information Contact:
Sergeant Ryan Panasuk  701-328-2447
rpanasuk@nd.gov