

TIRE, 180056, 0849MT: 2:49 ON DUTY, I10W MM110-ISH, BAD TIRE ON PASSENGER SIDE, EMERGENCY PULLOVER. REAR INSIDE DRIVE TIRE ON PASSENGER SIDE IS SHREADED WITH A SCREW STICKING OUT OF IT.

TEXT: "MY INNER REAR PASSENGER DRIVE TIRE. GPS: 31.154651,-105.287277. I10W MM110 ABOUT 2 MILES EAST OF SIERRA BLANCA AND 30 MINUTES WEST OF VAN HORN. VAN HORN LOVESIS THE NEAREST CHAIN TRAVEL CENTER 432-283-2881 FOR ERS."

11:09MT:

Well, I finished straightening up this journal for the past week. You know, one thing I don't like about "rest" is that if you don't get rest, you won't be ready for what's coming up. Well, I better get rest now while I can. The last time I had a roadside tire repair was in 2017 or 2018 in Pennsylvania, I think. The time after that was in Nevada, that was the first time I had a "gator" which is when the round encompassing tire tread explodes off the tire and looks like an alligator on the side of the road, accompanied by bits of the tire such as the side-walls and what not. That's why the steer tires need to be the main tires that are taken care of. The steer tires need the deepest tread(4/32"). The trailer and drive tires can be less deep in regard to the tread depth, they can be worn down to 2/32"; after all you have 8 drive tires and 8 trailer tires, but only 2 steer tires. A drive or trailer tire won't cause much of an issue when it blows up on the road, but a steer tire will be an issue; either an issue that requires expertise, an issue that causes damage, or issue of fatality. Expertise would show that you want to keep power on the accelerator, rather than decelerate because physics are to keep weight off the steer tires as you safely pull off the road. Damage would be to your hands, wrists, and arms because the steering wheel won't play nice with a bad steer tire. Fatality would be if the steer tire results in the truck not staying in its lane upon the explosion. So, just make sure the steer tires are new, and this won't ever be something you deal with.

I'm going to start cooking my first molasses bread now as I wait here. The tire blew at 0849MT, I got to a safe spot to park about 40 minutes later. I analyzed the condition of the blown tire and its surroundings(shock absorber, shocks, suspension, airbags, mudflap). I detached the trailer except for the airlines and power; in order to make the new tire(s) safer and easier to put on.

Let's bake!

- 1125MT.