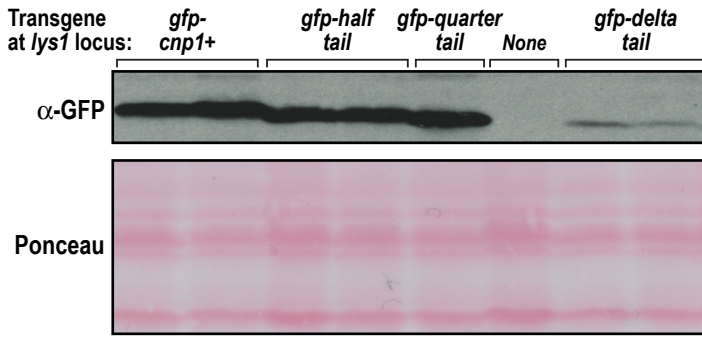
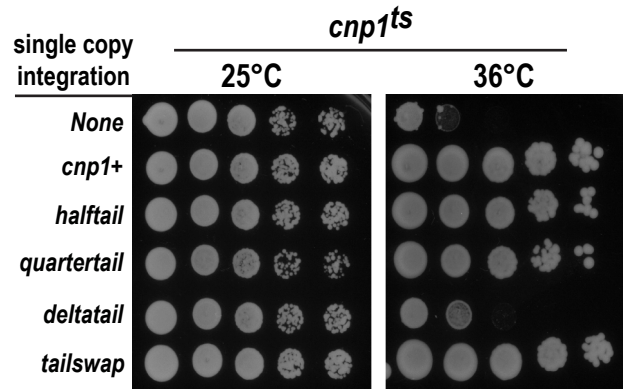


**A**



**B**

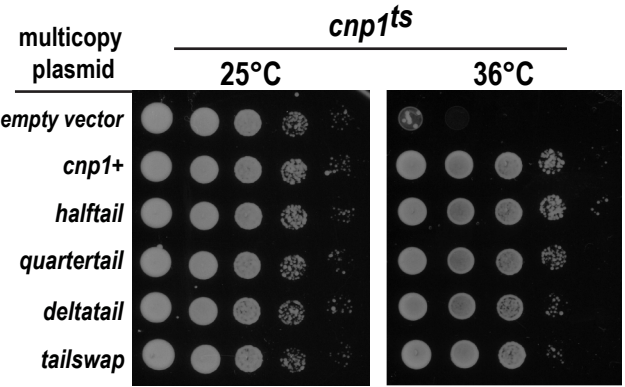


**C**

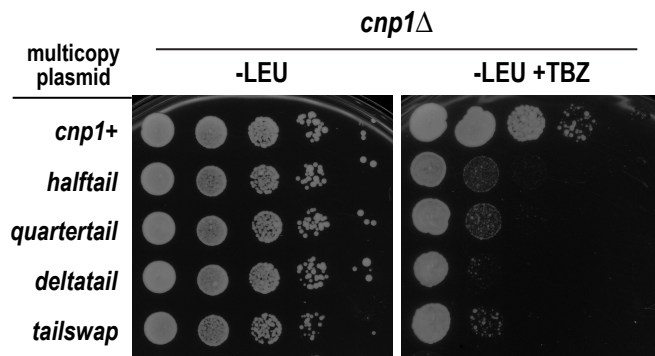
**Viability Analysis of N-Tail Variant Transgenes**

	Single copy (integration)*		Multi-copy (episomal)	
	<i>cnp1Δ</i> rescue	<i>cnp1<sup>ts</sup></i> rescue	<i>cnp1Δ</i> rescue	<i>cnp1<sup>ts</sup></i> rescue
<i>cnp1+</i>	+	+	+	+
<i>half tail</i>	+	+	+	+
<i>quarter tail</i>	+	+	+	+
<i>delt tail</i>	-	-	+	+
<i>tail swap</i>	+	+	+	+

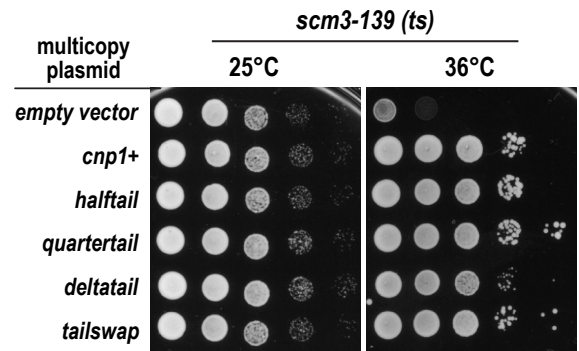
\**gfp* fused single copy *cnp1* transgene insertions behaved similarly to untagged *cnp1* transgenes in the *cnp1Δ* rescue analysis



**D**

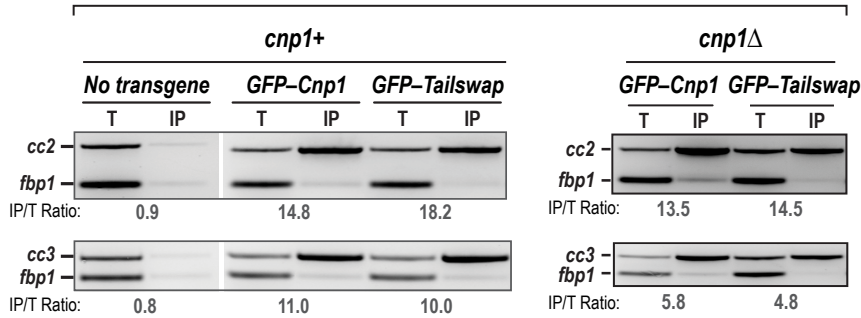


**G**



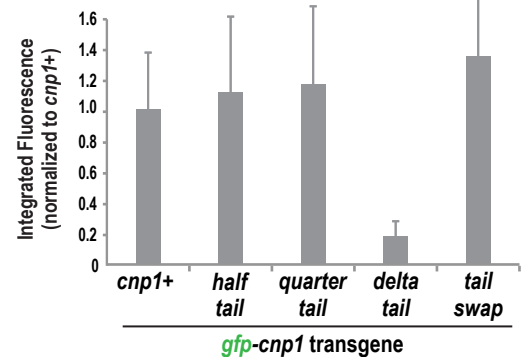
**E**

**α-GFP Chromatin Immunoprecipitation**

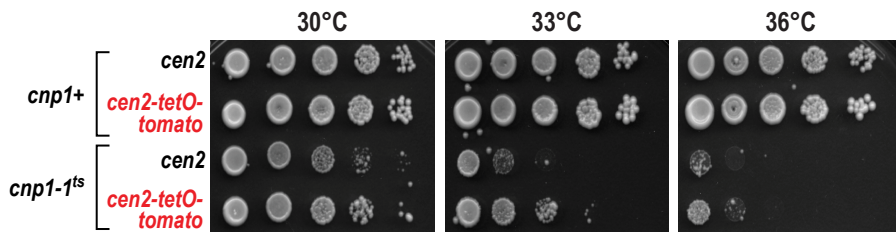


**F**

**Centromeric GFP Fluorescence (in presence of endogenous Cnp1)**



**A**



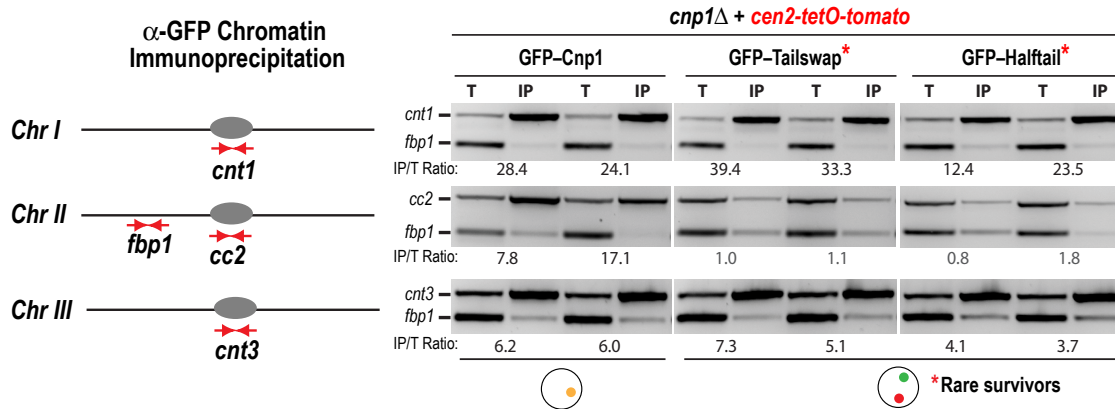
**B**

**Mating Assay Test for Synthetic Lethality\***

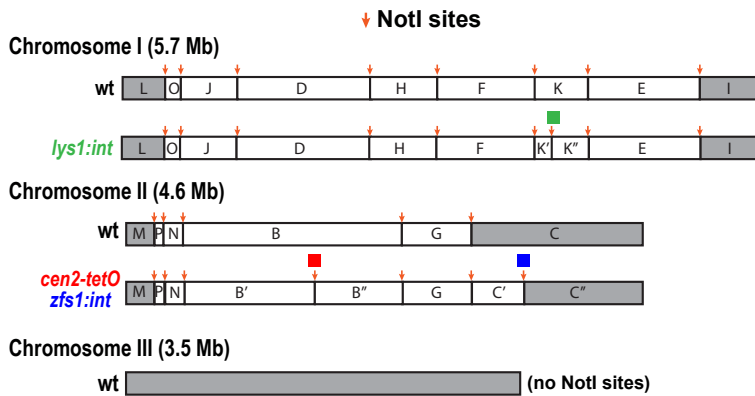
Array	N-Tail Variant	N-Tail Variant Colonies (Ratio relative to total)
no TetO array	GFP-Cnp1	0.44
	GFP-Tailswap	0.27
<i>pericen1-tetO-tomato</i>	GFP-Cnp1	0.51
	GFP-Tailswap	0.21
<i>cen2-tetO-tomato</i>	GFP-Cnp1	0.20
	GFP-Tailswap	0.007

\*see Table S1 (Sets B,D & E)

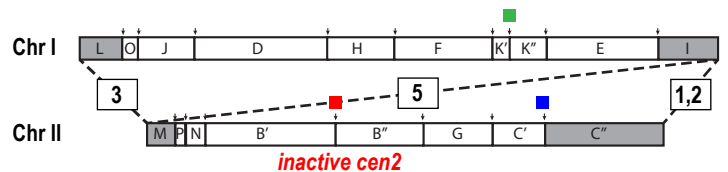
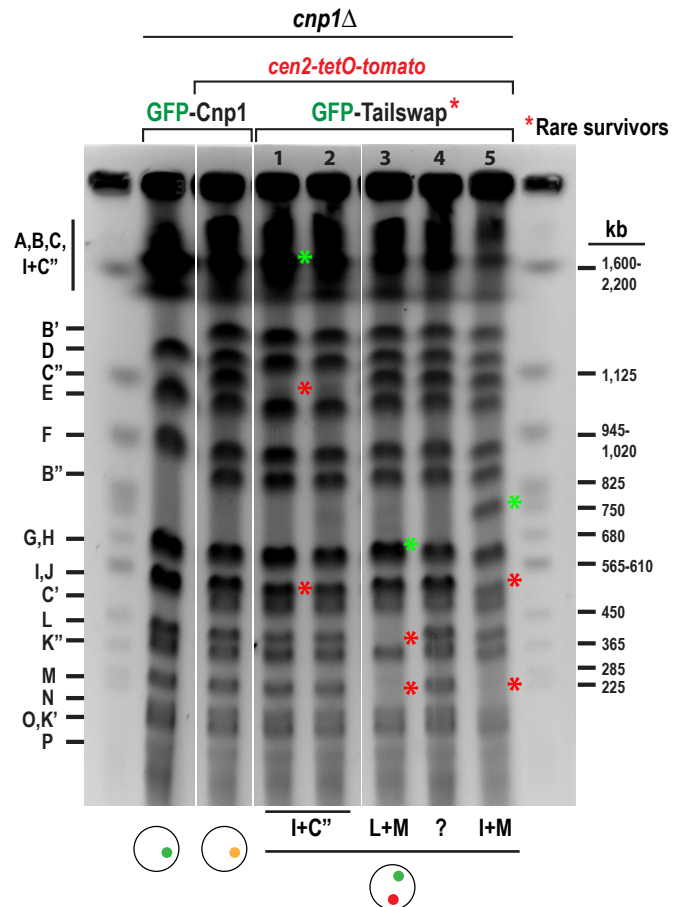
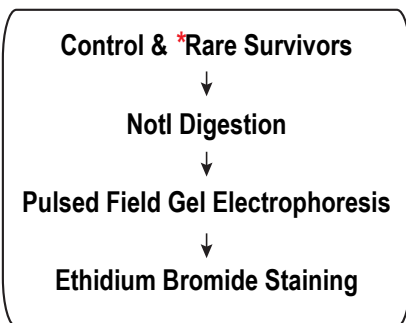
**C**

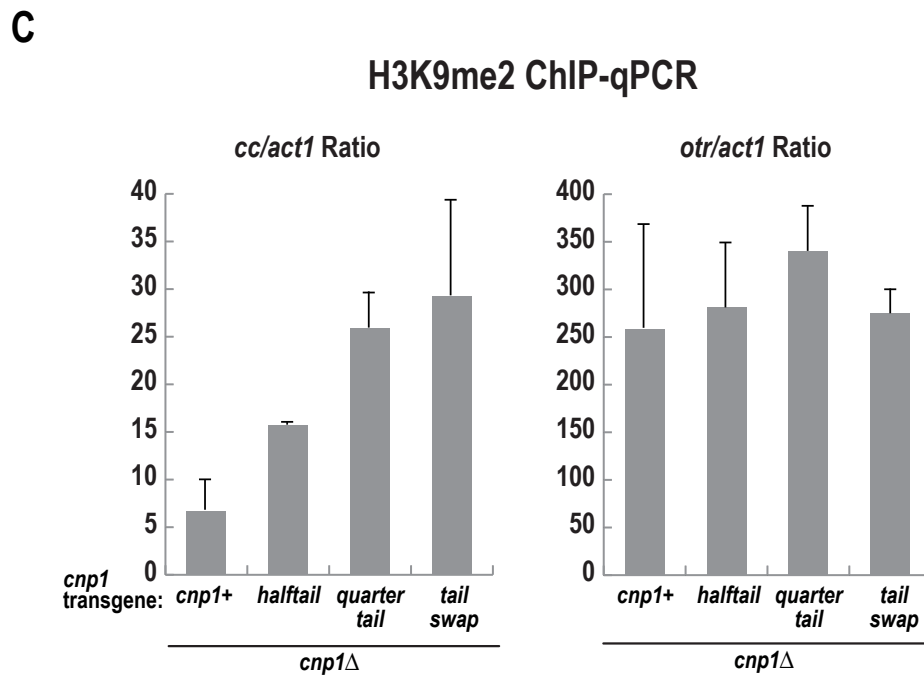
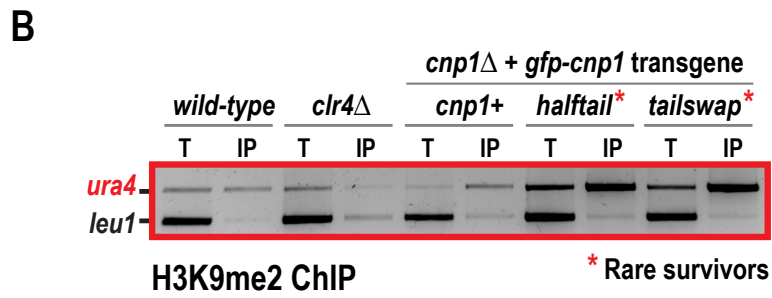
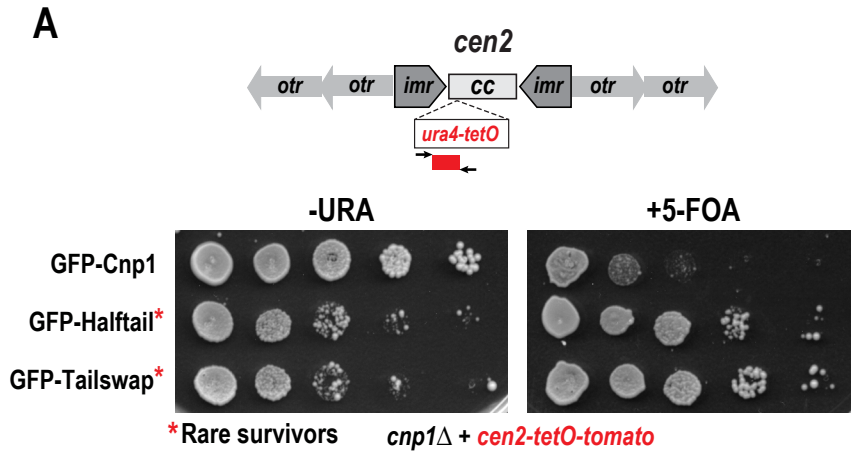


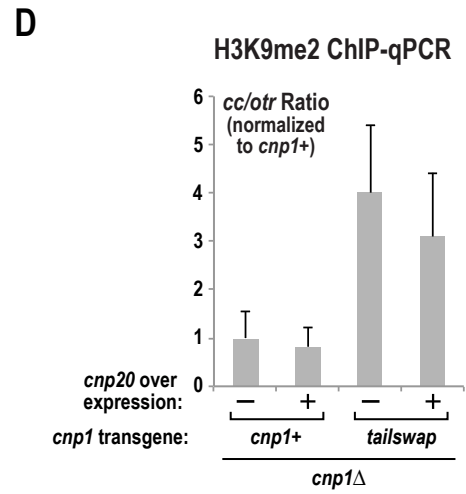
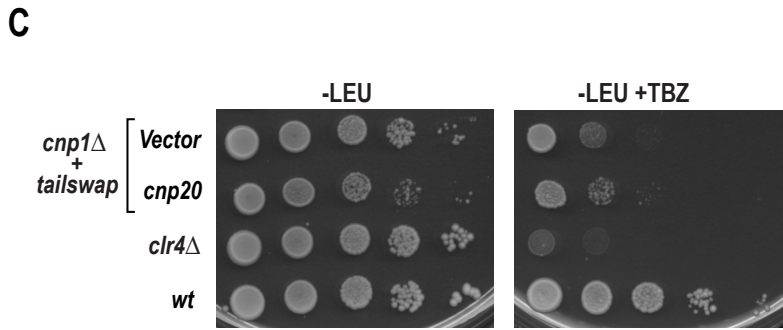
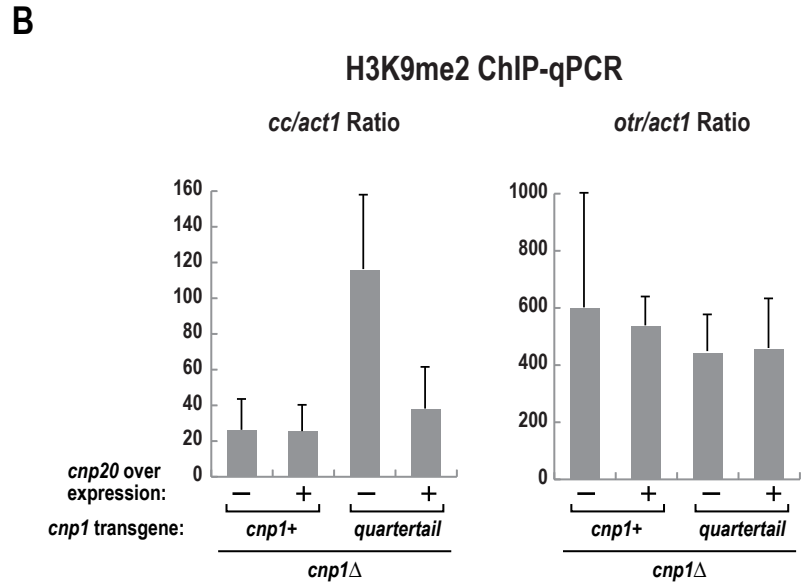
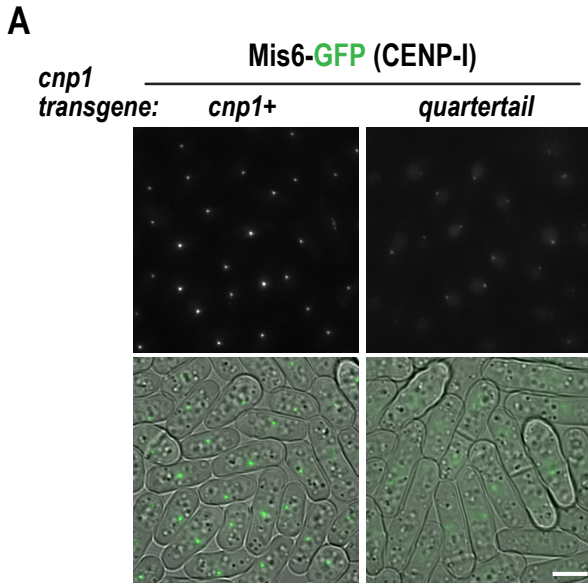
**D**



- *lys1:int* : *gfp-cnp1* transgene insertions
- *cen2-tetO* : TetO array insertion in central core of *cen2*
- *zfs1:int* : *tetR-tomato* fusion transgene







## SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE LEGENDS

### Suppl. Figure 1 (Related to Figure 1). Characterization of Cnp1 N-tail variants.

**A.** Anti-GFP immunoblot of indicated GFP-tagged Cnp1 N-tail variants. Ponceau staining is shown as a loading control.

**B.** Rescue of *cnp1 ts* (temperature-sensitive) mutants by Cnp1 N-tail variants. Top: *cnp1-76* (ts) rescue by single copy integrations at *lys1* expressed under endogenous *cnp1* promoter. Bottom: Rescue of *cnp1-1* (ts) by Cnp1 N-tail variants expressed under the *nmt1* promoter in multicopy pREP81 plasmids. A ten-fold dilution series is shown for each strain.

**C.** Summary of the viability rescue assays conducted for Cnp1 N-tail variants.

**D.** Overexpression of Cnp1 N-tail variants does not rescue their TBZ sensitivity. Serial dilution (10-fold) of *cnp1Δ* cells expressing Cnp1 N-tail variants on multicopy plasmid pREP81 were plated on minimal media or without the addition of 10 μg/ml TBZ. Growth was assayed at 30°C.

**E.** Anti-GFP ChIP of wild type and *cnp1Δ* cells expressing indicated GFP-Cnp1 variants (the absence of any transgene serves as a control). Enrichment at centromeres (*cc2* and *cc3* products) was determined by comparison with input DNA, relative to the control non-centromeric locus *fbp1*.

**F.** Fluorescence intensity at centromeres of indicated GFP-tagged Cnp1 variants integrated at single-copy in a *cnp1+* strain. Error bars represent the SD (n>100 per strain).

**G.** Rescue of *scm3-139 ts* cells (10-fold dilution series) by Cnp1 N-tail variants expressed on the multi-copy plasmid pREP81.

**Suppl. Figure 2 (Related to Figure 2). Analysis of the Cnp1 N-tail variant – *cen2-tetO-tomato* synthetic lethal interaction.**

**A.** *cen2-tetO-tomato* does not affect the temperature sensitivity of the *cnp1-1<sup>ts</sup>* mutant. 10-fold serial dilutions of *cnp1Δ* cells expressing *cnp1+* or *cnp1-1<sup>ts</sup>* harboring either *cen2* or *cen2-tetO-tomato* were plated on rich YES medium and incubated at various temperatures as indicated.

**B.** GFP-Tailswap is synthetic lethal with a centromeric but not a pericentromeric TetO array. The genetic interaction between GFP-Cnp1 or GFP-Tailswap and indicated *tetO-tomato* arrays was measured employing the assay depicted in *Fig. 2A*. Please see *Table S1* for further details.

**C.** Evidence for loss of *cen2* identity, based on anti-GFP ChIP, in rare survivors expressing either GFP-Tailswap or GFP-Halfail as the sole source of Cnp1 and harboring *cen2-tetO-tomato*. Enrichment at centromeres (*cnt1*, *cc2* and *cnt3* products) was estimated based on comparison with input DNA relative to the control non-centromeric locus *fbp1*.

**D.** *NotI* digestion-based analysis of chromosome fusions. Schematic on the left indicates the *NotI* digestion pattern for the strain harboring the indicated insertions (*red, green and blue squares*). Chromosomal DNA samples digested with *NotI* from indicated strains were analyzed by pulsed-field gel electrophoresis (*right*). Green asterisks indicate new bands originated by the fusion of two missing bands, indicated as red asterisks. Schematics below summarize the 4 fusions observed in 4/5 GFP-Tailswap survivors. For one survivor (#4), no clear alteration in the band pattern was observed, suggesting either a fusion with Chr III or formation of a neocentromere.

**Suppl. Figure 3 (Related to Figure 3). Analysis of H3K9me2 at the central core of the centromere.**

**A.** To assess silencing of a *ura4* marker adjacent to the *tetO array* in the central core of *cen2*, cells were serially diluted (10-fold) on minimal medium lacking uracil (-URA) and counter-selective 5-FOA medium. Improved growth on 5-FOA indicates hyper-silencing of the *ura4* marker cassette in the rare survivors with inactivated *cen2*.

**B.** ChIP with H3K9me2 antibody was performed on the cells used in the plating assay in *Fig. S3A*. Wildtype and *clr4Δ* controls are also shown. The amount of H3K9me2 enrichment at the *ura4* cassette was compared to the non-centromeric control *leu1*. The results show strong H3K9me2 enrichment at the central core of the inactive centromere.

**C.** ChIP-qPCR analysis of H3K9me2 from *Fig. 3C* replotted to show enrichment at heterochromatic outer repeats (*otr*) and centromeric central core 1 & 3 (*cc*) relative to the non-centromeric control *act1*. Error bars represent the SD (n=3)

**Suppl. Figure 4 (Related to Fig. 4). Analysis of Mis6/CENP-I localization and suppression of H3K9me2 by Cnp20/CENP-T overexpression.**

**A.** Representative images of Mis6-GFP in the indicated strains. Scale bar represents 5 μm. See quantification in **Fig. 4B**.

**B.** ChIP-qPCR analysis of H3K9me2 from *Fig. 4D* replotted to show enrichment at heterochromatic outer repeats (*otr*) and centromeric central core 1 & 3 (*cc*) relative to the non-centromeric control *act1*. Error bars represent the SD (n=3)

**C.** Serial dilutions of Tailswap strains harboring empty or Cnp20-overexpressing multicopy pREP1 plasmid were plated on minimal medium lacking leucine (PMG -LEU), with or

without 15 µg/ml TBZ, and grown at 30°C. A ten-fold dilution series is shown for each strain. *clr4Δ* serves as a TBZ-sensitive control.

**D.** ChIP-qPCR with H3K9me2 antibody for the indicated conditions. The normalized ratio of products from Cnp1-enriched regions (*cc*) and heterochromatic outer repeats (*otr*) is displayed. Error bars represent the SD (n=3).

**Table S2.** List of yeast strains used in this study.



**Table S1. Analysis of genetic interactions between Cnp1 N-tail variants and *tetO-tomato* insertions**

Relevant genotype	Method	Variant	Strains	Ratio	N		
<b>Set A: unaltered <i>cen2</i> control</b>	G418 25°C & 36°C:	<i>GFP-cnp1+</i>	P770 x Q128	<b>0.20</b>	1009		
			P771 x Q128	<b>0.62</b>	533		
<i>lys1+&gt;cnp1-ts cnp1::KAN</i>	<u># colonies 36°C</u>						
<b>X</b>	# colonies 25°C	<i>GFP-tailswap</i>	P770 x Q133	<b>0.14</b>	1729		
<i>lys1+&gt;variant</i>			P771 x Q133	<b>0.33</b>	410		
<hr/>							
<b>Set B: <i>cen2-tetO-tomato</i></b>	G418 25°C & 36°C:	<i>GFP-cnp1+</i>	P871 x P204	<b>0.19</b>	884		
			P871 x P955	<b>0.22</b>	980		
			P871 x P204	<b>0.21</b>	1541		
		<i>lys1+&gt;cnp1-ts cnp1::KAN</i>	<u># colonies 36°C</u>	<i>GFP-tailswap</i>	P871 x P275	<b>0.004</b>	1896
					P871 x P957	<b>0.01</b>	2490
		<i>cen2-tetO tetR-tomato</i>	<u># colonies 36°C</u>		P871 x P275	<b>0.007</b>	1611
		<b>X</b>	# colonies 25°C	<i>GFP-halftail</i>	P871 x P214	<b>0.008</b>	1227
		<i>lys1+&gt;variant</i>			P871 x P215	<b>0.001</b>	1621
		<i>cen2-tetO tetR-tomato</i>					
				<i>GFP-quartertail</i>	P871 x P216	<b>0.02</b>	1451
		P871 x P693	<b>0.001</b>		1229		
<hr/>							
<b>Set C: <i>cen2-tetO-tomato clr4Δ</i></b>	G418 25°C & 36°C:	<i>GFP-cnp1+</i>	Q166 x Q175	<b>0.50</b>	587		
			Q166 x Q176	<b>0.74</b>	1005		
		<i>clr4Δ lys1+&gt;cnp1-ts cnp1::KAN</i>	<u># colonies 36°C</u>	<i>GFP-tailswap</i>	Q169 x Q175	<b>0.003</b>	174
					Q169 x Q176	<b>0.03</b>	369
		<i>cen2-tetO tetR-tomato</i>	<u># colonies 25°C</u>		Q170 x Q175	<b>0.01</b>	1149
		<b>X</b>			Q170 x Q176	<b>0.009</b>	964
		<i>clr4Δ lys1+&gt;variant</i>			Q171 x Q175	<b>0.01</b>	288
		<i>cen2-tetO tetR-tomato</i>			Q171 x Q176	<b>0.002</b>	297

		<b>GFP-cnp1+</b>	Q087 x Q128	<b>0.44</b>	157
<b>Set D: unaltered cen1 control</b>					
<i>lys1+&gt;cnp1+&gt;&gt;ade6+ cnp1::KAN</i>	G418 low ade 30°C:	<b>cnp1+</b>	Q087 x Q129	<b>0.40</b>	433
<i>ade6-210</i>	<u># red colonies</u>				
X <i>lys1+&gt;variant</i>	# total colonies		Q087 x Q131	<b>0.24</b>	167
<i>ade6-210</i>		<b>GFP-tailswap</b>	Q087 x Q132	<b>0.28</b>	249
			Q087 x Q133	<b>0.28</b>	298
<b>Set E: pericen1-tetO-tomato</b>					
<i>lys1+&gt;variant&gt;&gt;ade6+* ade6-210</i>		<b>GFP-cnp1+</b>	P968 x Q001	<b>0.49</b>	309
<i>pericen1-tetO tetR-tomato</i>	G418 low ade 30°C:		P967 x Q005	<b>0.52</b>	248
X	<u># white colonies</u>	<b>GFP-tailswap</b>	P968 x Q003	<b>0.23</b>	71
<i>lys1+&gt;cnp1+ cnp1::KAN</i>	# total colonies		P967 x Q007	<b>0.20</b>	105
<i>ade6-210 tetR-tomato</i>					

\* *lys1* locus is linked to *cen1* (<1cM). Therefore, *variant>>ade6+* is also linked to *pericen1-tetO*

**Table S3. Oligonucleotides used in this study**

<b>Primer</b>	<b>Sequence</b>	<b>PCR product</b>	<b>Figure</b>
<b>HDF-37</b>	TTCGACAACAGGATTACGACC	<i>ura4</i>	S3B
<b>HDF-39</b>	GAGGGGATGAAAAATCCCAT	<i>ura4</i>	S3B
<b>HDF-47</b>	AATGACAATTCCCCACTAGCC	<i>fbp1</i>	3A, S1F, S2C
<b>HDF-48</b>	ACTTCAGCTAGGATTCACCTGG	<i>fbp1</i>	3A, S1F, S2C
<b>HDF-138</b>	GCTTTATCATAGTATTTTAGGC	<i>cnt1</i>	S2C
<b>HDF-139</b>	AATACTTGGTATGTAAAGTGG	<i>cnt1</i>	S2C
<b>HDF-142</b>	ATTCAGGATGCTTTCAGTTG	<i>cnt3</i>	S1F, S2C
<b>HDF-143</b>	AATCTAAGGAACCCGGTAAG	<i>cnt3</i>	S1F, S2C
<b>HDF-202</b>	GACCTAGAAGTAAAATTCGT	<i>otr</i>	3A
<b>HDF-203</b>	GCGGTTGTTTGGCACTGAATGTAA	<i>otr</i>	3A
<b>HDF-204</b>	TTTGGTCAAGAGCCCTCGTA	<i>leu1</i>	3A, S3B
<b>HDF-205</b>	TAGAAGCCTCACCTCCCAA	<i>leu1</i>	3A, S3B
<b>HDF-210</b>	CGTTCATACAGATGACTTTCC	<i>cc2</i>	3A, S1F, S2C
<b>HDF-211</b>	CCAAGTATCCTTCAAACACTAC	<i>cc2</i>	3A, S1F, S2C
<b>HDF-245</b>	CAGACAATCGCATGGTACTATC	qPCR <i>cc</i>	3C, 4C, S3C, S4B, S4D
<b>HDF-246</b>	AGGTGAAGCGTAAGTGAGTG	qPCR <i>cc</i>	3C, 4C, S3C, S4B, S4D
<b>HDF-323</b>	AACCCTCAGCTTTGGGTCTT	qPCR <i>act1</i>	3C, 4C, S3C, S4B
<b>HDF-324</b>	TTTGCATACGATCGGCAATA	qPCR <i>act1</i>	3C, 4C, S3C, S4B
<b>HDF-325</b>	AATTGTGGTGGTGTGGTAATAC	qPCR <i>otr</i>	3C, 4C, S3C, S4B, S4D
<b>HDF-326</b>	GGGTTTCATCGTTTCCATTAG	qPCR <i>otr</i>	3C, 4C, S3C, S4B, S4D

## SUPPLEMENTAL EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

### Strain and Plasmid Construction

Standard procedures were used for fission yeast growth, genetics and manipulations [S1]. *S. pombe* strains used in this study are listed in **Table S2**. Cells were grown at 30°C unless otherwise stated. Cnp1 N-tail variants were obtained by a combination of PCR and subcloning into pS2 [S2] and LEU2-marked pREP81 plasmids. *cnp20* was PCR-amplified from genomic DNA and cloned into pREP1 plasmid. pS2-based plasmids were linearized with *NsiI* and introduced by transformation at *lys1+* locus. Strains expressing Cnp1 N-tail variants as unique source of Cnp1 were isolated as described [S3]. The following arrays, gene fusions and mutant alleles were previously described: *cen2-tetO-Tomato* [S4], *pericen2-lacO-GFP* (*cen2-D107* [S5]), *cnp20-GFP* and *cnp3-Tomato* [S6], *mis6-GFP* [S7]), *ndc80-GFP* [S8]), *cnp1-1* [S9], *cnp1-76* [S10], *scm3-139* [S11]) and *nda3-KM311* [S12]. *pericen1L-ade6+* and *pericen1R-tetO* strains (gifts from Robin Allshire) harbor insertions of *ade6+* gene and a 5.2 kb *tetO* array at the pericentromeric *XhoI* sites, left and right hand side, respectively.

### Mating-based random sporulation assay

To determine if the combination of a specific N-tail variant and the *cen2-tetO* array insertion resulted in synthetic lethality, we measured the ratio of the number of colonies at 36°C (which prevents growth of spores that inherited the *cnp1-1<sup>ts</sup>* mutant) versus 25°C as follows: Briefly, two types of parental strains were mated and sporulated: i) *cnp1*Δ strains rescued by a *cnp1-1* temperature-sensitive (*cnp1-1<sup>ts</sup>*) mutant transgene integrated at the *lys1* locus and, ii) wild-type strains containing *gfp-cnp1* N-tail variant transgenes also integrated at the

*lys1* locus. In addition, both parental strains harbored either an unaltered centromere 2 (*cen2*) or a centromere 2 with a *tetO* array insertion in the central core (*cen2-tetO-tomato*). Spores generated after mating were selected for *cnp1* $\Delta$  (based on resistance to G418), making the *lys1*-integrated transgene the sole source of Cnp1.

## **PFGE**

Pulsed-field gel electrophoresis was performed as described [S13].

CHEF-DR III and CHEF-DR (Biorad) were used for running untreated (48 h run) and *NotI*-digested plugs (24 h run), respectively.

## **Spindle checkpoint assay**

*nda3-KM311* cells were grown in YES at 30°C to mid log phase then shifted to the non-permissive temperature (18°C). Samples were taken every 2 hrs for 8 hrs, fixed in ice cold methanol, then stained with DAPI (1 $\mu$ g/ml) and calcofluor (15 $\mu$ g/ml).

## **Imaging**

Cells were grown and mounted as described [S3]. Images were acquired either on spinning-disc microscope with a 100X 1.4NA Plan Apochromat oil lens or a Delta Vision Elite microscope (Applied Precision) with a 100X 1.35 NA oil lens (Olympus). Time-lapse experiments were performed on a Deltavision (Applied Precision) microscope with an Olympus 60X, 1.4NA oil lens. Further image processing, including maximum intensity projections and measurement of fluorescence intensities, was performed using ImageJ (National Institutes of Health). Background-subtracted centromere intensity measurements were performed as described [S14].

### **Chromatin immunoprecipitation (ChIP)**

Cells were grown in rich media or PMG –LEU when plasmid selection was required. Anti-GFP (A111122, Invitrogen) and anti-H3K9me2 (ab1220, Abcam) were used in ChIPs as described [S3, S15]. Oligonucleotides employed in semiquantitative duplex PCR and qPCR are listed in **Table S3**.

### **ChIP-seq**

A described method [S16] with minor modifications was used for ChIP-seq. Briefly, the cells were lysed with zymolase and chromatin was sonicated to a range of 200-1000 bases. Approximately 500 ng of chromatin per sample was used. ChIP-seq data was aligned to the following assembly ASM294v2\_19 with BWA. Only those reads with a MAPQ of 10 or greater were used; MAPQ of 10 or greater indicates that reads map uniquely. The parameters used for the mapping were 25 base pair reads, allowing 2 mismatches per read. Because sequencing can easily be saturated with a relatively small genome such as fission yeast, 1,000,000 reads were randomly selected to perform peak calling and generate wig files. For the .wig files, the data was binned into 200 bases. Sequencing data are available at the NCBI Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) repository under the accession number GSE63350.

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