

Two injured, vehicles totaled, in icy Hwy. 97 crash

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

LA PINE, Ore. - The drivers of two vehicles - one an SUV and the other a large truck pulling a trailer carrying a fork lift - were injured Sunday morning when they were involved in a head-on crash on icy Highway 97 near La Pine, Oregon, deputies reported.

Sunriver resident Tina Sides was flown by AirLink helicopter to a hospital in Bend.

Deschutes County Sheriff's Sgt. Bryan Husband said that 42-year old Sunriver resident Tina Sides apparently lost control of her 1998 Honda Passport about 10:15 a.m., March 29, as she traveled south on the icy highway, crossed into the oncoming lane and struck the truck.

Sides received reportedly non-life threatening injuries, although she was flown by AirLink helicopter to St. Charles Medical Center in Bend after being transported to the La Pine Fire Station by paramedics, Husband stated in a news release.

The driver of the other vehicle, a 1996 Dodge Ram 3500 flatbed truck pulling the trailer loaded with a fork-lift, was identified as Harold Chase, 56, of Otis Orchards, Washington.

Chase was also injured, Husband said. He was treated by La Pine medics at the scene but declined further medical attention.

Both vehicles were totaled and towed from the scene by La Pine Towing and Central Oregon Towing trucks. Oregon State Police troopers and Oregon Department of Transportation also assisted, the sergeant said.

The northbound lane of Highway 97 was reopened about 1 ½ hours later.

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