

## Driver Cited for DUII in 3-Vehicle Crash on Deschutes Market Road

*by Bend Weekly News Sources*

A Bend man was arrested for drunk driving following a 3-vehicle crash on Friday, July 7th at about 5 pm. The accident occurred on Deschutes Market Road between Bend and Redmond. Two of the three drivers involved were injured, and Deschutes Market Road was closed between Morrill Road and Dale Road for about three hours.

According to Sgt. Vance Lawrence of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office, the initial investigation indicates that Michael Rowe of Redmond was south bound on Deschutes Market Road south of Morrill Road, driving a Mazda passenger car. Kimberly Merritt, a Bend resident, was north bound, and Joe Beal of Redmond was following Merritt.

Rowe crossed the center line and struck Merritt's Ford Expedition. Merritt saw Rowe's vehicle heading toward her and was unsuccessful in taking evasive action to avoid the impact. After being hit, Rowe's vehicle slid and struck Beal's Plymouth Van at an angle.

Both Rowe's and Beal's vehicles ended up on their sides in the middle of the roadway and sustained significant damage, said Sgt. Lawrence. Merritt's vehicle slid sideways and came to a stop.

Rowe was extricated from his vehicle by the Jaws of Life, and he and Beal were transported to St. Charles Medical Center by ambulance.

Rowe was arrested, cited and released for Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (alcohol). The investigation continues and other criminal charges may be pending.

### Accident Location