

Drunk driver hits two horses, flips into river

by Cheryl McDermott

BOISE, Ida. - A 41-year old Nampa woman is suspected of driving drunk when she hit two horses on the side of the road and continued on for another one-half mile before driving off a 75-foot embankment and landing upside down in the river. Both she and a three-year old child were injured, Idaho State Police (ISP) reported.

Troopers said Ganette Rainey was traveling south on the Old Emmett Highway near Hoseshoe Bend, Idaho about 25 miles north of Boise, at 7:15 p.m. Friday when her 2002 Ford Explorer struck two horses on the side of the road. Rainey continued driving for one-half mile before her SUV went off the left side of the highway, down a 75-foot embankment, and flipped into the Payette River where it came to rest upside down.

Witnesses who saw the accident from the other side of the river were able to pull Rainey and three-year-old Nevaeh Powell from the vehicle. Both SUV occupants were flown by LifeFlight air ambulance to St. Alphonsus Medical Center in Boise.

Troopers said they don't know if the driver was wearing a seat belt, but the child was properly restrained in a car seat when the accident occurred.

The crash is still under investigation but ISP reported that alcohol is believed to be a causal factor.

Drunk driver hits two horses, flips into river by Cheryl McDermott