

Teen driver critically injured in Columbia River Gorge crash

by Cheryl McDermott

A 19-year-old Gresham woman was flown to the hospital by helicopter after her vehicle was found by searching family members more than 50-feet down a steep embankment along the Historic Columbia River Highway.

Pope's SUV was lifted up over the 30-foot embankment where she spent over 19 hours trapped - MCSO photo
Roxann Marie Pope was trapped in her 1991 Chevrolet Blazer overnight until she was found about 4:30 p.m. Wednesday. According to a news release issued by the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, Pope never returned home after leaving work at 9 p.m. on Tuesday, and family and loved ones began searching when her employer reported she never arrived for work Wednesday.

Pope was found, breathing and conscious, after having been trapped for about 19 hours. Her SUV went off the steep bank about one mile west of Multnomah Falls Lodge, where she is employed.

The cause of the crash remains under investigation.

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