



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL
An Internationally Accredited Agency
REPORT OF COLLISION - NEWS RELEASE

TYPE OF COLLISION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fatal <input type="checkbox"/> Hit & Run	DATE 07/04/2024	TIME 19:35	INVESTIGATING OFFICER G. Heaton		AREA Garberville				
<input type="checkbox"/> Injury <input type="checkbox"/> Property Damage	LOCATION Eel River Ranch Road, SE of Hill Road			WEATHER Clear, Hot, and Dry					
PERSONS INVOLVED NAME	PARTY NO.	AGE	SEX	SAFETY EQUIP USED	CITY OF RESIDENCE	DIR. of TRAVEL	VEHICLE YEAR & MAKE	INJURY/HOSPITAL	ARREST
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Driver <input type="checkbox"/> Passenger <input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcyclist <input type="checkbox"/> Bicyclist John Doe	1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		<input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> S	2000 Dodge Ram 1500	<input type="checkbox"/> MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> MODERATE <input type="checkbox"/> MAJOR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FATAL	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO Mendocino County Coroner
<input type="checkbox"/> Driver <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Passenger <input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcyclist <input type="checkbox"/> Bicyclist Camerino Ruiz	1	31	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Fresno, CA	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> S	2000 Dodge Ram 1500	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> MODERATE <input type="checkbox"/> MAJOR <input type="checkbox"/> FATAL	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> Driver <input type="checkbox"/> Passenger <input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcyclist <input type="checkbox"/> Bicyclist			<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> S		<input type="checkbox"/> MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> MODERATE <input type="checkbox"/> MAJOR <input type="checkbox"/> FATAL	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<input type="checkbox"/> Driver <input type="checkbox"/> Passenger <input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcyclist <input type="checkbox"/> Bicyclist			<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> S		<input type="checkbox"/> MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> MODERATE <input type="checkbox"/> MAJOR <input type="checkbox"/> FATAL	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<input type="checkbox"/> Driver <input type="checkbox"/> Passenger <input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcyclist <input type="checkbox"/> Bicyclist			<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> S		<input type="checkbox"/> MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> MODERATE <input type="checkbox"/> MAJOR <input type="checkbox"/> FATAL	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<input type="checkbox"/> Driver <input type="checkbox"/> Passenger <input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcyclist <input type="checkbox"/> Bicyclist			<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> S		<input type="checkbox"/> MINOR <input type="checkbox"/> MODERATE <input type="checkbox"/> MAJOR <input type="checkbox"/> FATAL	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

* Information provided on this document is in accordance with Government Code sections 6254(f) and 6254(f)(2).

For purposes of the CHP 288, fatal victim information is releasable through the coroner.

SUMMARY
On July 4, 2024, at approximately 1935 hours, a 2000 Dodge Ram 1500 was traveling east on Eel River Ranch Road, southeast of Hill Road. For reasons still under investigation, the driver allowed the Dodge to travel off the south road edge of Eel River Ranch Road and up a dirt embankment, causing the Dodge to overturn. The Dodge came to rest on its roof on Eel River Ranch Road, facing an easterly direction. Ruiz was able to self-extricate; however, the driver was trapped inside the vehicle. The Dodge caught fire and became fully engulfed in flames, which spread to nearby vegetation. This caused a full wildland fire response. The fire was quickly contained and determined to be the size of approximately 0.11 acre.

The driver of the Dodge was pronounced deceased at the scene by fire/medical personnel. It remains under investigation whether drugs or alcohol were a factor in this crash. The identity of the driver is being withheld until next of kin is notified.

This crash is under investigation by the California Highway Patrol, Garberville Area.

SUBMITTED BY: Sergeant K. Will	DATE 07/05/2024	TIME 15:00	CORONER'S OFFICE CASE NUMBER
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