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Media Release

Dust Storm Causes 27 Vehicle Accidents and One Fatality in Winnemucca

On Monday, June 10, 2013, at approximately 4:45pm, a large dust storm blew through the Winnemucca area resulting in numerous accidents on I-80. Zero visibility was reported.

The accidents occurred on I-80 near mile marker 175, within the city limits of Winnemucca. 8-9 vehicles crashed on the E/B side, and 17-18 vehicles crashed on the W/B side. Both eastbound and westbound lanes of I-80 were closed through the evening and into Tuesday morning while the Nevada Highway Patrol and emergency crews remove vehicles and conducted investigations. Traffic is being routed through Winnemucca at this time.

While details of the accidents are still under investigation, there was one fatality. Mr. Ravi Dyer, age 51, from Chicago, IL, was driving a commercial vehicle W/B on I-80. Due to low visibility, Mr. Dyer's truck rear ended another commercial vehicle. Two other commercial vehicles then hit Mr. Dyer truck from behind. The passenger in Mr. Dyer's truck (unknown name at this time) was also seriously injured, and flown to a Reno Hospital.

At this time, we believe 33 motorists were admitted to the Humboldt General Hospital for non life threatening injuries. Three motorists were flown to a Reno hospital for serious injuries.

The Winnemucca Police Department (Chief Eric Silva), Humboldt County Sheriff's Department (Sheriff Ed Kilgore), Humboldt County EMS, and the Nevada Department of Transportation provided assistance at the scene.



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