



ROCKY WATSON, SHERIFF
TAD LEACH, UNDERSHERIFF

KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Media Release
June 12th 2009

On 06-12-09 at approximately 2:50 P.M. members of the Kootenai County Sheriff's Department Recreation Safety Section, Kootenai County Fire and Rescue and CDA Fire Department responded to an injury boat accident involving two Yamaha personal watercraft on Lake Coeur d' Alene near the entrance to the 3rd Street Boat Launch.

The preliminary investigation indicates a fifteen year old female from Pinehurst Idaho was operating one of the PWC's with a male juvenile passenger on board. Another female juvenile, fourteen, of Coeur d' Alene was operating the second PWC, also with a male juvenile passenger on board. The identification of the two operators and passengers are being withheld at this time.

The two vessels came in close proximity to each other and collided. The result was the female operating the second watercraft being ejected from the PWC she was operating, striking the other vessel and sustaining serious life threatening injuries.

The injured girl was removed from the scene by private boat to the 3rd Street Boat Launch where she was transported to Kootenai Medical Center. Alcohol is not a factor in this collision and there was minimal damage to either PWC.

The investigation is ongoing and further information will be release as it becomes available.

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Department would like to remind all PWC and boat operators to practice safe boating. The next Idaho Boating Safety Course will be held 8:30 A.M.- 2:00 P.M. Saturday June 20th at the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation/Fish and Game Office on Kathleen Avenue. Call 446-2250 to reserve at seat for this free course.

Case # 09-13124
Recreation Safety
Kootenai County Sheriff's Department
(208) 446-1300

Rocky Watson, Sheriff
By: MDS



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The Kootenai County Sheriff's Department is saddened to report the 14 year old juvenile female of Coeur d' Alene who was involved in a Personal Watercraft Accident on June 12th at approx. 2:50 PM, near the Boardwalk Marina on Lake Coeur d' Alene, died as a result of the injuries she sustained.

The female sustained extensive internal and head injuries when she was ejected from the Personal Watercraft she was operating and struck another Personal Watercraft.

The accident is still under investigation by the Kootenai County Sheriff's Department Recreation Safety Section. At this time the name of the female juvenile is not being released.

Again, The Kootenai County Sheriff's Department Recreation Safety Section would like to remind all recreational boaters to practice safe boating while operating any type of watercraft.

Rocky Watson, Sheriff
By Dep. Ryan Higgins
Case # 09-13124