



KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF

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For immediate release:
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Bicyclist airlifted following collision

Poulsbo, Wash. -- A 14 year-old Poulsbo girl with critical injuries was airlifted to Harborview Medical Center, Seattle following a collision between a pick-up truck and the girl as she rode her bicycle.

Sheriff's patrol and traffic deputies, together with engine and medic units from Poulsbo Fire Department, responded to the 12:40 p.m. collision at the intersection of Clear Creek Road NW and NW Lakeness Road, just north of Poulsbo.

Sheriff's traffic investigators report that the young teenager was riding her bicycle on the shoulder of Clear Creek Road, heading northbound. As the girl arrived at the intersection of Lakeness Road a southbound motorist noted the bicyclist as he passed her, then observed in his rearview mirror as the girl suddenly maneuvered her bike across the northbound lane of travel to turn onto Lakeness Road. The bicyclist did not check behind her prior to crossing the road and was struck by a 2002 Dodge Ram truck, also heading northbound. The driver of the truck, a 76 year-old Poulsbo man, was unable to avoid a collision, impacting the bicycle with the truck's right front fender. The force of the collision knocked the girl off of her bike and into a drainage ditch.

The young bicyclist was transported by medic unit to a temporary landing zone at Vinland Elementary School, for further transport by an Airlift Northwest helicopter to Harborview Medical Center.

The bicyclist was not wearing a safety helmet.

The investigation continues. Persons who may have witnessed this collision are asked to contact Deputy Steve Martin, sheriff's traffic unit, at (360) 337-4634.

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