

**Ward County Fatal Crash & Road Closure
Update – Highway Now Open**

What: Fatal Crash

Where: Hwy 52 MM 80, 11 miles southeast of Carpio

When: August 22, 2021 at about 1:00 AM

Road Conditions: Good

Weather Conditions: Clear

Crash Involvement: Three vehicle

Type of Crash: Head-on

Agencies Involved: NDHP, Ward County Sheriff's Office, Burlington Police Dept., Minot Fire, Burlington Fire, Carpio Fire, Minot Community Ambulance

Vehicle No. 1: GMC Sierra pickup
Driver No. 1: Adult male, fatal injuries
Restraints: Unknown
Charges: NA

Vehicle No. 2: Volvo truck tractor pulling a van trailer
Driver No. 2: Adult male, injured
Restraints: Seatbelt in use
Charges: None

Passenger No. 1: Adult male, injured
Restraints: Seatbelt in use

Vehicle No. 3: Ford Ranger pickup
Driver No. 3: Adult male, not injured
Restraints: Seatbelt in use

Charges: None

NARRATIVE: The clean up on Hwy 52 has been completed and the roadway is now open to traffic.

The GMC was traveling south on Hwy 52 and was following the Ford. The Volvo was traveling north on Hwy 52. The GMC started to pass the Ford and struck the Volvo head-on. The Ford was struck by debris from the other vehicles. The GMC came to rest in the southbound lane and started on fire, which was later extinguished by firefighters. The Volvo overturned onto the driver's side and came to rest on the northbound lane sticking partially into the east ditch. The Ford ran off the roadway into the west ditch and came to rest on its wheels facing south. The driver of the GMC sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced deceased on scene. The driver and passenger of the Volvo sustain non-life threatening injuries and were transported to Trinity hospital by ambulance. The driver of the Ford was not injured.

The Volvo was hauling bulk containers of a diesel-based substance which leaked onto the roadway and into the ditches. The spill will require extensive clean up. Hwy 52 is closed from Carpio to the Hwy 2/Hwy 52 split west of Minot until the clean up is complete. Signage has been placed by NDDOT at the closure sites that include messaging for alternative routes.

This crash remains under investigation by the NDHP.

For More Information Contact:

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