



Car found after missing one week

September 21, 1997
Black Mtn Road
1997-030

A sad story unfolded in a remote part of the Black Mtn. region. A middle aged out of county women driving alone, stranded her small car on a rough, remote 4WD road. The women, ill-equipped, apparently tried to hike out cross country over some brutally rugged terrain. From her location she could see the lights of Banning, and they would have appeared deceptively close. When RMRU was called in, the women had been missing for a week. Her car had been found abandoned, and from this location the search began. Due to the length of time the subject had been missing and the difficulty of the terrain, other search agencies were called in as well. The women's body was discovered late Monday by an RMRU team. The late hour prevented evacuation that day. Tuesday morning team members successfully carried out the extraction with the assistance of a rescue helicopter. Cause of death was listed as "exposure."

RMRU is a volunteer search and rescue team that covers Riverside County and assists other teams with search and rescue efforts in other counties. Each member purchases their own equipment and takes time off work, without compensation, to participate in search and rescue missions. Team equipment is purchased from contributions from the community. We are a non-profit organization and are funded by [donations](#) from people like you.