

withheld) perfected plans detained by the police

Seven die as boat capsizes in Rivers

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Seven persons were
feared dead while oth-
ers were declared miss-
ing when a boat capsized
yesterday on Bonny wa-
terway in Bonny Local
Government Area of Riv-
ers State.

Reports say that the
boat was carrying passen-
gers from Port Harcourt,
the state capital, when the
accident occurred.

The state Police Public
Relations Officer (PPRO),
Nnamdi Omoni, a Deputy

Superintendent of Police
(DSP), confirmed the in-
cident, but could not con-
firm the number of casu-
alties, saying that he did
not have the details.

Among those who lost
their lives, according to
sources, were four adults
and three children, but
the number of passen-
gers yet to be accounted
for is yet to be disclosed.

Sources, however, said
that rescue efforts com-
menced shortly after the
accident occurred.

A native of Bonny,
identified simply as An-
derson, who confirmed

the number of casual-
ties, has called on Feder-
al and state governments
to construct a bridge
linking Bonny and Bodo
city, to reduce accidents
and attacks on Bonny
waterway.

He said: "We believe
that if we have a bridge
linking Bonny and Bodo,
all the risks of boat mis-
hap, sea pirates' attacks
and other criminal ac-
tivities will reduce.

"We are appealing to
Federal and state govern-
ments to construct the
bridge to reduce the risks
of travelling by sea."