



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Noreen Price
Aviation Accident Investigator
Alaska Regional Office

Date: July 21, 2019
Person Contacted: Jake (Matthew) Soplanda, pilot
NTSB Accident Number: ANC19TA037, N6PF

Narrative:

Mr. Soplanda was the pilot and owner of N6PF PA-19 (PA-18 modified) that crashed near the Talachulitna River near Skwentna on July 20, 2019, during a landing at a remote airstrip. On July 21 he called the duty officer on call, Noreen Price, to report the accident. This is a summary of his statements.

- Mr. Soplanda was the owner of the airplane and the pilot at the controls at the time of the accident. The passenger was his mother. The flight departed from the Lake Hood airport strip (on wheels.) The destination was a remote airstrip near his cabin on the Talachulitna River.
- The winds were very gusty and variable that day, so he overflew the airstrip, which has two windsocks, and reviewed the wind direction. The winds were gusting around, but indicated mostly from the north, so he set up for a north landing.
- During the landing flare, he immediately knew that something was wrong, and the airplane was being pushed from behind by the wind. He initiated a go around, but “lost control of the airplane” and settled back down and drifted left and struck a tree on the right side of the airplane.
- The fuselage and right side of the airplane impacted a tree and became wedged into the tree and off of the ground. He was able to egress, but the passenger stated she had back pain. He called the Alaska Rescue Coordination Center and LifeMed. They were both flown to a local hospital via an air ambulance helicopter.
- Mr. Soplanda stated that his mother would be in the hospital for a couple of days and that she had fractured her vertebrae.

- Mr. Soplada had no pictures of the wreckage and no hull insurance.
- He stated that there were no mechanical malfunctions with the airplane.
- There was damage to longerons of the fuselage.
- He was given permission to recover the wreckage provided that pictures of the scene were provide to the NTSB.

ADDENDUM

On July 24th, 2019, Mr. Soplanda stated during a phone conversation that the passenger was still in the hospital with fractured vertebrae.