



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

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Air Safety Investigator
Central Region

Date: June 11, 2019
Person Contacted: Jason Walters, pilot
NTSB Accident Number: CEN19TA162

Narrative: In a phone conversation with Mr. Walters, he stated the following:

- He took off from the ground and the helicopter felt good with plenty of power.
- He felt that the helicopter was struggling to maintain performance (wind maybe?)
- He made the first pass down one of the creek beds into the wind, then pulled out of the field and dumped some of the chemical to get rid of some of the load because he still felt like it didn't have the usual performance.
- Did a couple circles around trying to figure out best way to attack field. There was a north-northwest wind
- Kept speed up and was up at a higher altitude. Turned downwind, then right turn back into crosswind.
- Rotor started pulling down so he nosed forward and dropped collective to try to gain rpm.
- Couldn't turn into wind more because he would have lost more rpm so he kept a quartering right crosswind.
- Hit jettison and dumped load hoping he could pull out of the descent.
- Flared at last second and dragged the tail. Chopped tail off.
- Had a lot of forward airspeed when he hit.
- 6,200-6,300 ft density altitude.
- All of the factors combined probably led to the accident.
- 38-40 hours in helicopter agricultural spraying time and this is his first season spraying

End of conversation.