

N997S-WITNESS STATEMENT-KATRINE AMOS

Witness Report-Plane Crash into White Iron Lake, Ely, MN on Thursday, August 20, 2020

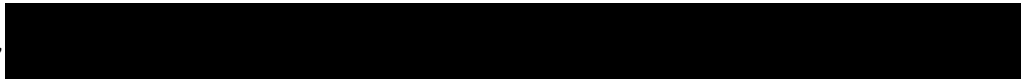
My sisters and I were in cabin 21 of White Iron Beach Resort and White Iron Retreat. Somewhere around 10:30-10:45 P.M. we went out into the parking lot of the cabins in the same area of the resort we were at. It is the White Iron Retreat group of cabins.

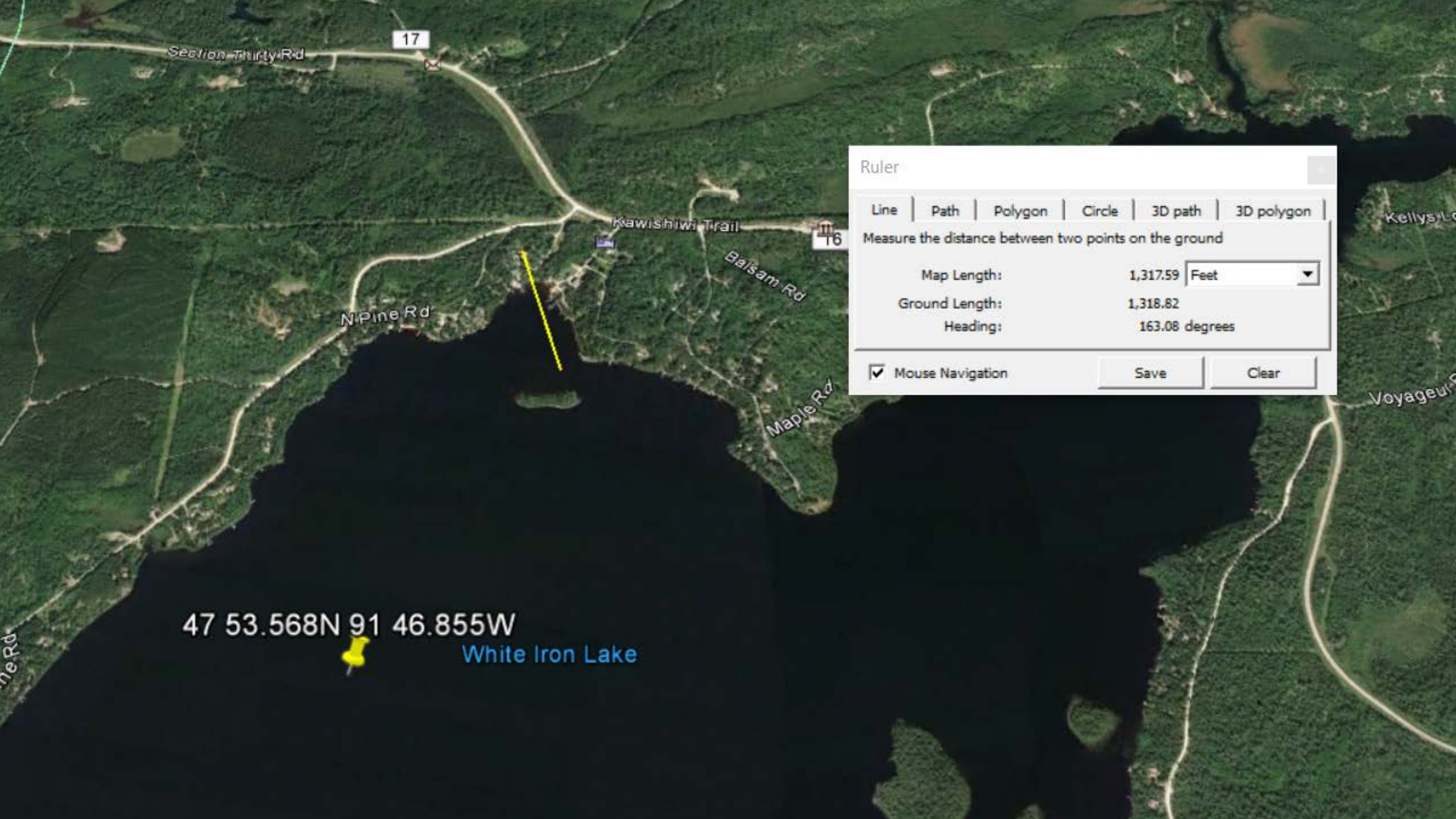
We went outside to stargaze. We had been out for a short time when we heard a plane. It was very, very loud. It sounded low. We were facing the lake but looking up at the stars. The plane appeared-it seemed to come out of nowhere, but it was loud, so we heard it a bit before we saw it. Looking up, when we saw it, it was above the trees to the right of us. We could tell something was wrong by the sound of the plane and by its altitude. It looked like the pilot was having a hard time keeping the plane in the air-it would go up just a bit, then drop a bit again. It did that the whole time until the nosedive into the lake. The engine seemed to cut out at times, and it seemed like the pilot was revving it. Just before the plane disappeared below the tree line of the island right across from where we were standing, I remember seeing a green light and a red light on the plane, but it looked like the plane was going into clouds or fog. It was like looking at lights through a foggy night. I remember thinking it was odd, because when we were out looking at stars, we could see them all over. We weren't out there long before we saw the plane, so if it clouded over the sky was not completely covered with clouds.

I did not hear anything for a short time-I was half expecting to hear a crash then. We could not see the plane. Next, I heard the engine again. It was very loud, and the plane came back into view. It looked like it was heading toward us. My sisters and I were getting ready to run, but we did not know where to run to-we kind of just stood there. I was half turned to run, and half watching the plane to see where it was going to go. It looked to me like the plane turned just a bit toward the lake. Then it went straight up and nosedived straight down. We did not see it hit the water-some trees were in our line of sight between where we were and the lake. We heard the impact. It sounded like an extremely hard, loud, and deep smack. We heard people yelling. One of my sisters and I went down to the docks near the cabins below us to see if we could help. We could not see anything in the water. There was no sign of anything. A few minutes later we saw a boat leave the resort docks. I watched it going back and forth in the water. Later, we saw other lights from boats. I could not sleep and kept looking out our cabin window. We had a view of a small part of the beach from there. I saw many people on the beach and heard some banging. I think that is when they were bringing some of the plane wreckage to shore.

The main things I remember are hearing the plane-the engine was very loud and was not running smoothly. It seemed to cut out, then rev up. While that was happening, when the plane came over the trees when I first saw it, it was already low. It looked like the pilot was trying to gain/keep altitude but could not. The plane kept dropping back down. It disappeared behind the island, then came back. It was still very loud and not running smoothly. The pilot still appeared to try to gain altitude. I thought he was going to crash into us. It seems he turned, went straight up, then the plane nosedived straight into the lake. We thought it must have crashed into the lake, we thought if it had crashed on land we would have seen and heard some type of explosion and/or fire.

Katrine Amos,





Section Thirty Rd

17

Kawishiwi Trail

16

Balsam Rd

N Pine Rd

Maple Rd

Kellys L

Voyageur

47 53.568N 91 46.855W

White Iron Lake

Ruler

Line | Path | Polygon | Circle | 3D path | 3D polygon

Measure the distance between two points on the ground

Map Length: 1,317.59 Feet

Ground Length: 1,318.82

Heading: 163.08 degrees

☒ Mouse Navigation

Save

Clear

CABIN 21

PARKING LOT, 55 FT ELEVATION OVER LAKE

Ruler

Line | Path | Polygon | Circle | 3D path | 3D polygon

Measure the distance between two points on the ground

Map Length:	1,369.40	Feet
Ground Length:	1,370.63	
Heading:	161.74	degrees

☒ Mouse Navigation

Save Clear

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Imagery Date: 9/3/2013 47°53'59.98" N 91°46'15.91" W elev 1386 ft