



Zane Brown
Aviation Accident Investigator
AS-CEN

Date: 1/10/2024

Subject: CEN20LA442

Contact: Tami Sandoval, Administrative Assistant, Irion County Sheriff's Office

On 03/11/2020 at 1943 Hrs. Deputy Barry L. Moore and Deputy Keith Hale, both of the Irion County Sheriff's Department were dispatched to the area of Irion and Reagan County Line on Murphy Lane in reference to a grass fire caused by a helicopter striking powerlines.

Upon arrival the pilot Mathew Davidson advised that he was flying east spraying cactus, when he failed to see the power lines. The pilot reported that he had crossed over the powerlines numerous times that day, but the sun had gone behind a cloud, so the sun was not reflecting off the powerlines. The pilot stated that after striking the power lines, the aircraft started pulling to the right. Mr. Davidson advised that he was able to land the aircraft, and still had had engine power when he landed the aircraft. Mr. Davidson advised that he shut down the engine and all electronics in the aircraft.