

John Brannen
NTSB IIC
AS-CEN

Date: Various dates

Subject: N6298L

Contact: Greg Thurston – MSP FAA Inspector

Mr. Thurston confirmed he was the FAA Inspector assigned to the accident involving N6298L, in River Falls, WI, on June 1, 2022. He provided the following information.

Upon arrival at the accident scene Mr. Thurston found that the airplane had substantial damage to the left outboard wing panel. The airplane was piloted by a student pilot in the left seat and a certificated flight instructor in the right seat. The CFI received serious injuries. There was a reported loss of engine power just after takeoff and the airplane landed in a field. Mr. Thurston reported that when he was at the accident scene, he examined the fuel tanks and did not observe any fuel in the tanks, nor did he smell fuel spilled at the accident scene. The airplane's position prevented further examination of the airplane and engine at that time.

Mr. Thurston examined the airplane at an aircraft salvage facility after its removal from the accident site. Examination revealed that the fuel tanks were not compromised. Examination of the fuel system didn't reveal any deficiencies. No fuel was found in the airplane. The engine could rotate freely, and compression was verified on all cylinders. Both magnetos produced spark when rotated. No mechanical anomalies were found that would account for the reported loss of power. He reported that he found no preimpact anomalies during his examination.