

National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Aviation Safety
Central Region



CEN24LA210

RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Loren French, Alpine Flight Training

June 5, 2024

Interviewee: Loren French, Alpine Flight Training (Airplane Operator)
Date/Time: June 5, 2024 / 0900 MDT
Location: Telephone Call
Investigator(s): Bradley Miller, NTSB Aviation Accident Investigator

Acting as the NTSB Duty Officer, Bradley Miller contacted Loren French at Alpine Flight Training, the airplane operator, to obtain additional information about the accident.

Mr. French stated that the airplane had a total loss of engine power after exhausting all useable fuel during the instructional flight. The fuel tanks remained intact at the accident site, both fuel tanks were void of useable fuel, and both fuel gauges indicated EMPTY.

Mr. French stated that the airplane had been flown by multiple crews on the day of the accident. The airplane's fuel system was "topped-off" twice on the day of the accident. The first top-off occurred at 0806 MDT, before the airplane was flown about 1.5 hours. The second top-off occurred at 1014 MDT, before the airplane was flown about 3.0 hours. Based on fueling invoices, the airplane was not refueled before the accident flight. According to flight tracking data, the accident flight was at least 2.3 hours in duration. According to Mr. French, the airplane was operated at least 5.3 hours since the last top-off refueling.

Mr. French stated that the airplane sustained substantial damage during the off-airport forced landing. The right-side of the forward fuselage exhibited impact-related buckling. The right crew door would not open. Both wings exhibited wrinkling of the lower wing skins. The lower fuselage exhibited impact-related buckling. The nose gear separated from the forward fuselage.