



Mike J. Hodges
Aviation Accident Investigator, Central Region
National Transportation Safety Board
14291 East 4th Ave, Suite 7-300
Aurora, Colorado 80011

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17 July 2024
RE: 2024-06-17-114930/CEN24LA229

Dear Mr. Hodges,

The Smithsonian Institution's Feather Identification Lab received 1 bag of bird remains on 18 June 2024 for examination. The samples were from an Aero Commander/S2R (N1746S) crash that occurred near White, South Dakota on 13 June 2024.

The material was examined using DNA, microscopy, and whole feather comparisons with museum specimens and determined to be Mallard Duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*).

DNA gender-typing (sexing) was conducted on samples to determine if more than one individual was involved in this event. Both male and female bird remains were found in the sample suggesting that at least two birds were struck. The weight range of Mallard is male 870-1800 grams; female 735-1320 grams.

The details of this report have been entered into the FAA Wildlife Strike Database. Let us know if you have any questions, and good luck with your investigation.

Sincerely,

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Carla Dove, Ph.D.
Feather Identification Lab
Washington, DC 20560

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