



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Pilot Interview

Peter Wentz
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

NTSB Accident Number: ERA19LA258
Pilot Interview (William E. Hinsley)
Date: August 26, 2019

Narrative:

Mr. Hinsley stated he performed a preflight inspection of the airplane at 0900 with no anomalies and departed Witham Field Airport (SUA), Stuart, Florida with two friends for a local personal flight to look at golf courses with his golf coach and his son from Colorado. They departed runway seven and proceeded south along the beach. He turned west approximately two miles from U.S. Highway 1. Then turned north to see the Medalist golf course in Hobe Sound. He proceeded southbound along the beach then turned west near Jupiter, Florida, and proceeded past US 1 about 2 miles before turning north towards Hobe Sound. Shortly after the turn north, the pilot heard a "tap, tap, tap, tap and a bang". He recalled the engine oil pressure gauge reading 0 and the primary flight display showing the wind from the east at 18 knots. He stated he was below a 1000 mean sea level (MSL) and he turned east and began looking for an appropriate landing location. The airplane was at a low altitude as it approached a roadway. He stated seeing powerlines and flew under them before performing a forced landing on the embankment next to the roadway. The airplane slid until it came to rest upright on its belly in the middle of US 1. The plane came to a safe stop on the northbound lanes of US 1 and he and his passengers exited the aircraft. He stated the airplane received damage to the right wing, right tip tank, and right elevator.