



Smithsonian Institution

NATIONAL
MUSEUM *of*
NATURAL
HISTORY

Tim Monville
National Transportation Safety Board

Ashburn, VA

30 January 2020

RE: ERA20FA074; N450MC; Feather Lab 200116.1

Dear Mr. Monville,

Three (3) samples from investigation (ERA20FA074) were hand--carried by you to the Feather Identification Lab on 16 January 2020 and examined for potential birdstrike evidence. The samples consisted of two (2) swabs from the fractured sections of main rotor blade, feather(s) found adhering to the fractured section of main rotor blade, and a few loose feathers found on the ground near a tree adjacent to the resting position of the fractured main rotor blade.

The two (2) swabs were sampled for mtDNA analysis and also examined microscopically. No bird remains were found in the rotor blade samples.

The loose feathers were matched to museum specimens of Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*).

Good luck with this investigation, if you have any questions, let us know. The samples and Chain of Custody are being returned to JJ Anglin today.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Carla J. Dove.

Carla J. Dove, Ph.D.
Feather Identification Lab
Smithsonian Institution
NHB E-600, MRC 116

A black rectangular box redacting the contact information for Carla J. Dove.