



Aaron McCarter
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

Date: 01/28/2022

Person Contacted: Pilot/Owner: Merle Wagner [REDACTED]

NTSB Accident Number: ERA21LA385

RE: Phone call with pilot/owner discussing the circumstances surrounding the accident.

Narrative:

The pilot/owner (Wagner) returned the investigators call on January 28, 2022, at 1215 local time. He stated that the nose landing gear retention bolt had failed and caused the nose landing gear to collapse. He confirmed that the previous owner/builder had not built the nose landing gear connection to specifications, so Wagner, rebuilt the wheel attach plate to strengthen it but the attach point remained the same which ultimately caused the gear to fail. He stated he will look for the nut; he thinks he still has it and will send a photograph.

Briefly discussed his repair of the airplane and the timeline of the accident report completion.

[END]