



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

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Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region

Date: 09/21/2022
Subject: Examination of Accident Site and Wreckage
NTSB Case Number: ERA22FA422

Examination of the accident site revealed that the airplane after striking trees, had come to rest inverted in a swamp within a heavily wooded area on a magnetic heading of approximately 270°. Further examination revealed that there was no debris path, the wreckage was partially submerged, and the odor of fuel was present, along with a fuel sheen on the surface of the water.

Examination of the airplane revealed that the majority of the airplane's structure was on site. The tail boom was twisted and displayed a fracture around its circumference near the attach point on the fuselage. The wings were partially separated from the fuselage. Control continuity was established from the flight control surfaces to the breaks in the system, and from the breaks in the system to the flight controls in the cockpit. The throttle control was in the closed (idle) position, the cabin door locking mechanism was in the closed position. The fuel filter was free of debris and both it and the fuel line from the fuel tank contained fuel which was clear and bright.

Examination of the 3-blade pusher type propeller revealed that one blade had separated from the hub near the blade root during the impact sequence. Examination of the separated blade did not reveal any evidence of leading edge gouging or chordwise scratching. Examination of one blade that was visible above the water and had remained attached to the hub, also did not reveal the presence of leading edge gouging or chordwise scratching. The remaining blade was unable to be examined as it was buried in muck below the surface of the water.

The engine was unable to be examined as it was buried in muck below the surface of the water.