



RECORD OF INTERVIEW

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National Transportation Safety Board
Office of Aviation Safety - Eastern Region

Date: 7/18/2022 1230
Person Interviewed- Mark Simmons – Pilot
NTSB Case Number: ERA22LA317

Narrative:

Mr. Simmons was interviewed by telephone.

Mr. Simmons (pilot) stated that he flew down to Sussex County Airport (FWN), from Maine, to fly a potential buyer around in the airplane he was selling. After the short flight, the pilot dropped off the potential buyer back off at FWN and was going to fly to Sullivan County Airport (MSV) where he was going to top off with fuel prior to returning home in Maine. Upon beginning descent into MSV he reports the engine began losing power and making noises. He verified fuel quantity and mixture settings. Estimated roughly 10 gallons fuel in each tank. Attempted to switch fuel tanks but power loss continued. Began looking for a place to emergency land the aircraft. There was what sounded like an explosion from the engine. The oil service door blew open and began spewing oil and smoke out of the service door opening, covering the windscreen. Smoke began entering the cabin. Pilot reported selecting both flaps and gear down but did not have time to verify extension. As he scanned the area for an emergency landing, he saw a field and lined up for landing in the field. As he was getting close to landing and about 200 ft above the ground, he saw some high voltage power lines crossing the field and he knew he could not land there so he set up for landing on a road, he landed on the road but did not think the gear was down since he did not have hydraulic power.

The airplane caught on fire, and he egressed out of the airplane and waited for help.

Dan Boggs
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