

Bird Strike on N733QJ

To Whom It May Concern:

On 11 Dec 23, my student and I were returning from area work to do patterns on runway 25 at KPHF. We started with a normal touch and go. During the go portion, at approximately 20-30 feet above the runway, a bird flew directly toward the aircraft. It occurred at approximately 11:15 am. We initiated a pull up to try and avoid the bird but were unsuccessful as the bird hit the aircraft. Since we were getting good engine indications at full throttle, I did not want to change throttle position or change flight path at such a low altitude since I did not know what damage occurred to the aircraft. I took control of the aircraft and continued a straight ahead climb to a safe altitude where if I lost the engine, I would be able to fly the aircraft back to the runway safely. I then initiated a shallow 10° bank turn to the right and did a short approach landing following a similar flight path as would be accomplished on a power-off 180. I did this since I didn't know what would happen once I pulled the throttle back just in case I encountered engine failure. The engine work as advertised but I did an idle approach just to be on the safe side. I landed the aircraft at the 1000' marker on runway 25 at KPHF and taxied clear at taxiway G. While pulling off the runway, I informed tower of FOD on the runway. There were such large pieces I assumed it was three birds located on the left side of the centerline of runway 25 approximately 3000 feet down the runway. It ends up it was just one bird in three parts. No emergency was declared.

V/R,



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