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Eastern Region

Date: 6/25/2024
Subject: N453TS Pilot Interview
Contact: Winfred Vinton

Mr. Vinton contacted the NTSB ROC to discuss the accident of N453TS. The following is a summary of that conversation.

Mr. Vinton stated that he began to align with Highway 124 to perform a forced landing but observed too many cars on the roadway. He made a left 360 and began in the direction of the nearby transfer station and an open field, however, due to rising terrain he impacted trees before the open field. Mr. Vinton stated that he was able to exit the airplane normally and that the cockpit was intact.

Mr. Vinton was asked to describe the damage to the airplane and he replied the nose is buried and that this is an amphibious airplane. Both wings and the stabilizer are likely damaged. The hull is fiberglass and likely substantially damaged. All three propeller blades were broken off in similar locations.

He was asked to describe the engine failure event. He stated that he was at 5200RPM in cruise flight when there was a big "bang" and loss of engine power. He attempted to restart the engine multiples times, but only had a minute to a minute and a half to react. He was at 2500ft AGL when the loss of engine power occurred.

Mr. Vinton was asked if there was any recent maintenance performed on the airplane or engine and he replied "no". He was asked how many hours the airplane has and he replied "about 550, it's a 2012 airplane".

Mr. Vinton was asked the extent of his injuries which consisted of a contusion to the forehead and muscle pains, but no broken bones or lacerations.

He provided an email address of [REDACTED] and verified his phone number of [REDACTED]

He was given the FAA inspectors contact information and was told that they would be on scene tomorrow to complete an initial damage assessment.

-End of conversation