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Aviation Safety / Eastern Region

Date: 08/07/2024

Subject: NTSB# ERA24LA313 Instructor Pilot Statement

The following information was provided via email correspondence from the Instructor Pilot, Gregg Ludwig, to the FAA Investigator, Rick Brown:

N222D Searey event July 6, 2024

Gregg Ludwig Pilot/CFI

Wesley Patterson Pilot training for lake ops.

I was the pilot demonstrating landing the Searey on water. Distractions flying the Searey resulted in inadvertently landing on the lake with the landing gear down. This Searey has a history of static noise with the radio and intercom. Wesley was making adjustments to the intercom but the intercom static caused considerable distraction to my requirement to fly the airplane. Fortunately I did make a slow speed landing as desired that prevented any injuries. The lesson learned was to never allow distractions cause you to not be focused on the landing procedures.

The maintenance documentation, return to service and last inspection information can be available from the Searey owner Wesley Patterson.