



Bradley Gottschalk
Aviation Accident Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

Date: January 30, 2026

Subject: NTSB Accident Number: ERA26LA026

Contact: James Smith, DOM, Haynes Aviation, LLC

In a follow up telephone conversation with the Director of Maintenance, it was confirmed that the damage to the tail boom of N545HF was discovered the following morning by the crew going on duty. The damage was reported to maintenance. The helicopter was removed from service. The Director of Operations reported the accident to the FAA.