



RECORD OF PHONE CONVERSATION

Jackie Vanover
Air Safety Investigator
AS-20; General Aviation Accident

Date: April 24, 2015
Person Contacted: Mr. James F. Novak (Pilot)
NTSB Accident Number: GAA15CA050

Narrative:

The following is a synopsis of the information provided by Mr. Novak in a telephone conversation on this date: April 24, 2015

The pilot stated that he left Anaconda (3U3) to get fuel from Deer Lodge (38S) airport which is approximately 20 miles to the south, wind when he left was about light at 5-6 knots. He maneuvered for the left traffic pattern for 31 at Deer Lodge, he observed the wind sock on end of runway, and wind was calm. Smoke was stagnate from burning weeds, so he decided to land long on runway, less than ¼ of the way down in an effort to avoid the smoke from the burning brush. During his flare he bounced, on the second bounce he encountered what he believed was a crosswind. He stated that the airplane turned pointing to the east almost (to the right) at 90 degrees from his original heading, he added full power to attempt a go-around, and subsequently the airplane impacted a ditch, which resulted in the right gear and nose being separated from the airplane. Shortly after the accident he called a friend and arranged to have the airplane loaded on to the back of a trailer and moved out of the runway environment. Airplane is currently tied down at Anaconda airport.

The pilot reported there were no pre-impact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airframe or engine that would have precluded normal operation.