



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Noreen Price
Aviation Accident Investigator
Alaska Regional Office

Date: November 23, 2016 @ 1100
Persons Contacted: Joanne Pryor
NTSB Accident Number: WPR17FA021, N81GG

Narrative:

On November 23, during a telephone interview, Mrs. Pryor recalled that she saw the accident helicopter the night of the accident. Mrs. Pryor resides in a house on a ridge just east of the accident pilot's house near Pukoo Beach on Molokai Island. (██████████ Kamehameha V Highway Kaunakakai, HI) Mrs. Pryor has an FAA Private Pilot license but has not flown in over twenty years. She has resided part time at this house for two years.

Mrs. Pryor said that on the evening of November 15, just prior to full darkness, she saw a bright light outside, the biggest she had ever seen. It was lighting up her backyard. She saw a helicopter flying from the Fish Ponds on the beach diagonally inland toward her ridgeline. She noted that it was raining very, very hard and she saw the rain coming down in the helicopter's light. She noted that it was raining at a 45 degree to 90-degree angle to the ground. She noted that the helicopter seemed to making a controlled approach on a steady glide slope to a spot higher up on her ridgeline, but not the ridgeline that the pilot lives on to the west. Mrs. Pryor had never seen the helicopter before but was aware of the house and helipad that he supposedly flew to. She saw the helicopter descend down behind the ridgeline out of her view. She then saw a bright orange glow reflecting in the clouds. She thought that the helicopter might be performing some kind of eradication burning, and she did not realize that it was an accident.

Mrs. Pryor described the weather at that time to be very windy and rainy, "as bad as I've ever seen it." She did not note the time of the observation, but recalls that the accident must have been between 6:50 and 7:10 pm.

Mrs. Pryor said that the previous home owner told her that the accident pilot used her home's skylights to find his way in the dark. Mrs. Pryor was also told that the accident pilot's house was lined in red lights to help the pilot find his landing pad up the ridgeline. Mrs. Pryor did note that

the red lights on the pilot's house were on the night of the accident, and that her house experienced no power outages that night.

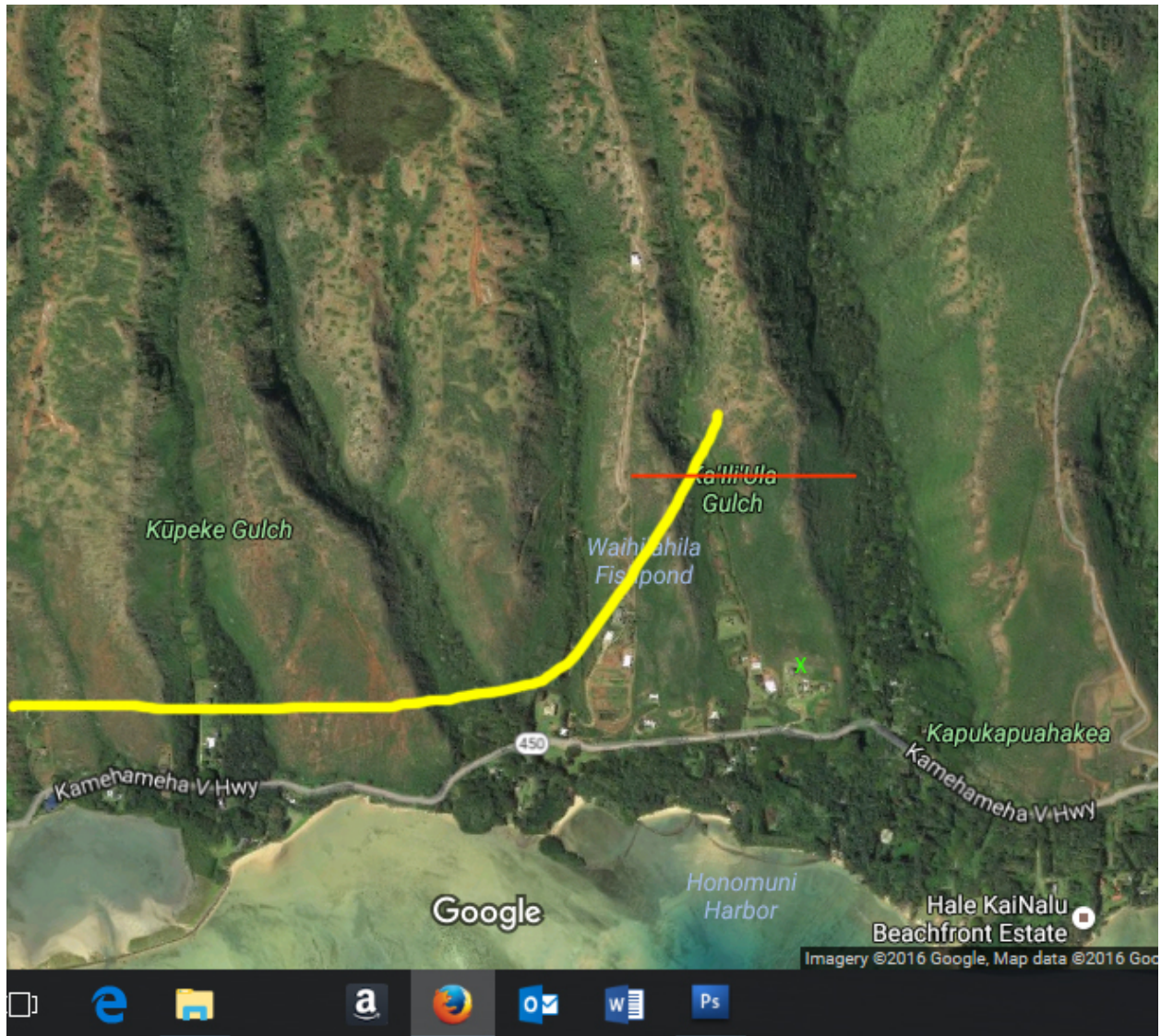


Figure 1. Google Earth image submitted by witness. Her house is green X.