



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Joshua D. Cawthra
Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
Western Pacific Region

Date: November 26, 2016
Person Contacted: Dave McDowell – Friend of the Pilot
NTSB Accident Number: WPR17FA029

Narrative:

During a conversation with Mr. McDowell, who was a friend of the pilot, he reported that the pilot was giving rides to people in their camp, which lasted about 10 to 15 minutes per ride and that the accident flight was his 6th flight of the morning. Mr. McDowell stated that the pilot departed an area of hard sand packed desert south of the accident site with the intent of relocating the airplane to a private airstrip to park it overnight. Mr. McDowell further reported that during the morning flights, he routinely flew over his intended landing area at about 50 feet above ground level (agl) and continued in a traffic pattern for the landing area at 50 feet agl. In addition, Mr. McDowell said that the pilot also routinely flew low in the sand dune bowls in the area.