



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Aviation Safety

Flight Standards District Office
[REDACTED]
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124
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December 17, 2019

Thomas Little - Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board
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Federal Way, Washington 98003

Subject: N9031S Accident #WPR18TA243

Dear Sir:

On 08/19/2018, I travelled to the accident site of N9031S, which was in a field about a mile south of the Kelso Airport. During the course of my investigation, it was discovered that the right hand fuel tank appeared to be empty. This was determined by first opening the right hand fuel cap and noting that there was no visible fuel. Second, when I attempted to drain fuel from the right hand fuel tank sump, no fuel came out. I then went to the left hand fuel tank, removed the fuel cap and noted that the fuel tank appeared to be full. After several interviews with the pilot, it was apparent that fuel management was an issue. It is in my opinion that this was a case of fuel starvation rather fuel exhaustion, since fuel was still available for use.

Sincerely,

Digitally signed by
CHRISTOPHER L
MAZURKIEWICZ
Date: 2019.12.17
[REDACTED]

Christopher Mazurkiewicz
Aviation Safety Inspector