



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Fabian Salazar
Air Safety Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board
Office of Aviation Safety – Western Pacific Region

NTSB Accident Number: WPR19FA246
Aircraft Registration & Make/Model: Beech Debonair, BE-35
Accident Location: St. Ignatius, MT.
Accident Date: August 29, 2019

Billy Culter
House Parent

Interview date: August 30, 2019

Mr. Culter was driving his truck along a road on the ranch. He was just ahead of the powerlines. He heard the airplane, "which was no surprise" He didn't see it yet. He heard a bang and turned to see sparks, pieces of wing coming off the airplane and the pilot losing control. He said that he saw the airplane rolling and skidding at the same time. When offered the use of a model airplane, he depicted an airplane in a nose-low and left roll attitude, then depicted how the airplane tumbled. He said the airplane came to a stop in a cloud of dust. He said that he ran to the airplane, called out, but could not get a response from anyone. He said the weather was a slight breeze with high clouds and good visibility, He said the time was 1600 and it was not dark.



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Craig Barretta
Relief House Parent

Interview date: August 30, 2019

Mr. Barretta was at the hay barn with some of the youth unloading hay. He heard the airplane, turned to look up and saw the airplane hit the wire. He then ran to the barn and grabbed some fire extinguishers. He picked up two others and went to help.



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Ethan Frontone
Support Staff

Interview date and time: August 30, 2019

Mr. Frontone was at the quonset hut when he heard the airplane approaching, “as usual”. He said the pilot often flies past the ranch to notify those there that he will be landing at the airport and they would go pick him up. He looked in the direction of the sound and saw the plane and the power lines. He stated that he had never seen him that low and that he may have turned left. He saw the wing and a spark and then the wing came off. He said the airplane then began to roll to the left. He said he did not see the airplane hit the ground.