



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Office of Aviation Safety
Western Pacific Region

SECURITY VIDEO SUMMARY

WPR20LA141

A. ACCIDENT

Location: Byron, California
Date: May 9, 2020
Aircraft: Bellanca 8GCBC, N4116Y
NTSB Investigator-in-Charge: Joshua Cawthra

B. DETAILS OF THE INVESTIGATION

1.0 Video Review

Airport security camera recordings, as shown in figure 1, captured the accident sequence showed that the tow airplane became airborne about mid length of the runway and proceeded a shallow climb with the glider in trail and at a similar altitude. About 7 seconds after the tow airplane became airborne, the glider pitched upward and ascended to a higher altitude, while the tow airplane remained in a shallow climb until 3 seconds later, when the tow airplane began a shallow descent. About 2 seconds later, the tow airplane and glider appeared to remain level, with the glider at a higher altitude than the tow airplane, for about 4 seconds, when the tow airplane and glider appeared to descend. The glider began to ascend about 4 seconds later, while the tow airplane pitched downward to a nose low attitude, impacted the runway, and nosed over, where a post impact fire ensued. The glider executed a 180° right turn and landed on runway 12 uneventfully.



Submitted by: Joshua Cawthra