



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Albert P. Nixon
Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
Western Pacific Region

Date: July 11, 2021
Person Contacted: Clay Stephens (BLM Incident Commander for Accident)
NTSB Accident Number: WPR21FA266

Narrative:

During a conversation with Clay Stephens, the following is a summary of what he stated:

- He was on the ground by the fire.
- He heard Air Attack (Accident Airplane) on the comms.
- He was looking for him.
- He saw a fire ball.
- He observed a wing half in the air after the fireball, floating down.
- The wing half landed by the fire perimeter about 0.7 miles from where the main wreckage was located.
- The wing half was in the air about 3-5 seconds after the fire ball.
- He heard a comment "what was that" on the radio.



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Date: July 12, 2021
Person Contacted: Markos Escobedo (Incident Commander of Cedar Basin Fire)
NTSB Accident Number: WPR21FA266

Narrative:

During a conversation with Markos Escobedo the following is a summary of what he stated:

- There were two single engine air tankers (SEAT) and one air attack airplane supporting the firefighting.
- He heard Air Attack (Accident Airplane) on the comms.
- He was able to hear both ground and air communications.
- He stated that one SEAT had dropped.
- He heard a boom and looked to see.
- He took inventory; one SEAT was in front of him, and the other SEAT was to the right,
- He determined that it was the Air Attack airplane.
- He noticed a piece of debris that looked like a wing in the air.
- He saw this piece about 2-3 seconds fluttering in the air.
- He called dispatch.
- The Air Attack airplane was flying above the other aircraft.
- He heard a comment "what the hell was that" on the radio but could not identify to anyone.