

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD PILOT/OPERATOR AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT

This form to be used for reporting civil and public aircraft accidents and incidents

BASIC INFORMATION

Accident/Incident Location

Nearest City/Place: Walnut Creek, State: CA

ZIP: 94507 Country: USA

Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

(Enter in decimal degrees or degrees minutes seconds)

Accident/Incident Date/Time

Date: 11/07/20 Local Time: 1245
mm/dd/yyyy

Time Zone: PST

Collision with Other Aircraft: ☒ Midair ☐ On-ground ☐ None

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Registration Number: N81KP

Manufacturer: SCHLEICHER

Model: ASW-27

Serial Number: 27041

Year of Manufacture: 1997

Amateur-Built: ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes ☐ Kit/Plans ☐ Original Design Make: _____

☐ IFR-Equipped and Certified

☐ Commercial Space Flight

☐ Unmanned Aircraft

Maximum Gross Weight: 1103 lbs

Weight at Time of Accident/Incident: 730 lbs

Number of Seats: 1 Flight Crew Seats: 1

Cabin Crew Seats: 0 Passenger Seats: 0

Number of Engines: 0

Category of Aircraft

- ☐ Airplane
☐ Balloon
☐ Blimp/Dirigible
☒ Glider
☐ Gyroplane
☐ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift
☐ Rocket
☐ Ultralight
☐ Unknown

Type of Airworthiness Certificate

(Check all that apply)

Standard

- ☒ Normal
☐ Aerobatic
☐ Balloon
☐ Commuter
☐ Transport
☐ Utility

Special

- ☐ Restricted
☐ Limited
☐ Provisional
☐ Special Flight
☐ Experimental
☐ Special Light-Sport
☐ Experimental Light-Sport

☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)
☐ None ☐ Unknown

Landing Gear

(Check all that apply)

☒ Retractable

- ☐ Tricycle ☐ Tailwheel
☐ Amphibian ☐ High Skid
☐ Emergency Float ☐ Skid
☐ Float ☐ Ski
☐ Hull ☐ Ski/Wheel
☐ Other Launch/Recovery System
☐ None ☐ Unknown

Engine Type (Select one)

- ☐ Reciprocating ☐ Liquid Rocket
☐ Turbo Shaft ☐ Solid Rocket
☐ Turbo Prop ☐ Hybrid Rocket
☐ Turbo Jet ☒ None
☐ Turbo Fan ☐ Unknown
☐ Electric

Fuel System Type (Reciprocating)

☐ Carburetor ☐ Fuel-Injected

Engine	Engine Manufacturer	Engine Model/Series	Manufacturer's Serial Number	Date of Mfg. mm/dd/yyyy	Rated Power ☐ Horsepower or ☐ lbs of Thrust	Total Time (hours)	Time Since: Inspection (hours)	Overhaul (hours)
Eng 1	N/A							
Eng 2								
Eng 3								
Eng 4								

Last Inspection Type

- ☐ 100-Hour ☐ Continuous Airworthiness
☐ AAIP ☐ Conditional Inspection
☒ Annual ☐ Unknown

Date Last Inspection: 3/3/2020
mm/dd/yyyy

Airframe Total Time: 4275 hrs

hours measured at (Select one)

☐ Last Inspection ☒ Time of Accident/Incident

Type of Maintenance Program (Select one)

- ☒ Annual
☐ Conditional (Amateur-built only)
☐ Manufacturer's Inspection Program
☐ Other Approved Inspection Program (AAIP)
☐ Continuous Airworthiness
☐ Other, specify: _____

Description of Fire Extinguishing System

- ☒ None
☐ Specify: _____

Propeller 1

- ☐ Fixed Pitch
☐ Controllable Pitch
☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

Propeller 2

- ☐ Fixed Pitch
☐ Controllable Pitch
☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

ELT Installed: ☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes

ELT Manufacturer: _____

Model or Part No.: _____

TSO No.: ☐ OC91 (121.5 MHz) ☐ OC91a (121.5 MHz)
☐ OC126 (406 MHz)

Was ELT still mounted in aircraft? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Was ELT still connected to antenna? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Did ELT Activate? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If activated

Did ELT Aid in Locating Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ No

If not activated

- Indicate Reason: ☐ Impact Damage
☐ Fire Damage
☐ Battery Expired/Damaged
☐ Unknown

Additional Equipment (Check all that apply)

- ☐ ADS-B
☐ Airframe Parachute
☐ Angle of Attack Indicator
☐ Autopilot
☐ Data Recorder
☐ Electronic Flight Bag or Handheld Device
☐ Electronic Multifunction Display
☐ Electronic Primary Flight Display
☒ Handheld GPS
☐ Heads Up Display
☐ Onboard Weather
☐ Satellite Tracking Device
☐ Stall Warning System
☐ Video Recording Device
☐ Other, Specify: _____

OWNER/OPERATOR INFORMATION**Registered Aircraft Owner**Name: Laurance J SuterCity: LivermoreFractional Ownership Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ NoState: CA ZIP: 94550Country: USA**Operator of Aircraft**☒ Same As Registered Owner☐ Same Address as Registered Owner

Name: _____

City: _____

Doing Business As: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Air Carrier/Operator Designator (4 Character Code): _____

Country: _____

Operating Certificates Held

(Check all that apply)

- ☒ None
☐ Flag Carrier Operating Certificate (FAR 121)
☐ Supplemental
☐ Air Cargo
☐ Foreign Air Carriers (FAR 129)
☐ Rotorcraft External Load (FAR 133)
☐ Commuter Air Carrier (FAR 135)
☐ On-Demand Air Taxi (FAR 135)
☐ Commercial Air Tour (FAR 136)
☐ Agricultural Aircraft (FAR 137)
☐ Pilot School (FAR 141)
☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)
☐ Commercial Space Transportation
Experimental Permit
☐ Commercial Space Transportation License
☐ Other Operator of Large Aircraft

Regulation Flight Conducted Under

- ☒ FAR 91 ☐ FAR 129 ☐ FAR 415
☐ FAR 103 ☐ FAR 133 ☐ FAR 431
☐ FAR 121 ☐ FAR 135 ☐ FAR 435
☐ FAR 125 ☐ FAR 137 ☐ FAR 437

☐ FAR 91 Special Flight
☐ Non-US, Commercial
☐ Non-US, Non-commercial

☐ Public Aircraft (Select one)
☐ Armed Forces
☐ Federal
☐ State
☐ Local

☐ Unknown

Revenue Operation for FAR 121, 125, 129, 135

(Select one for each group)

- ☐ Scheduled or Commuter ☐ Domestic
☐ Non-Scheduled or Air Taxi ☐ International

☐ Passenger
☐ Cargo
☐ Mail Contract Only

Purpose of Flight for FAR 91, 103, 133, 137

(Select one)

- ☐ Aerial Application ☐ Firefighting ☐ Unknown
☐ Aerial Observation ☐ Flight Test
☐ Air Drop ☐ Glider Tow
☐ Air Race/Show ☐ Instructional
☐ Banner Tow ☐ Other Work Use
☐ Business ☒ Personal
☐ Executive/Corporate ☐ Positioning
☐ External Load ☐ Skydiving
☐ Ferry

Revenue Sightseeing Flight☐ Yes ☒ No**Air Medical Flight**☐ Yes ☒ No**AIRPORT INFORMATION** (Fill in if accident/incident occurred on approach, landing, takeoff, departure, or within 3 miles of an airport)

Airport Name: _____

Distance From Airport Center: _____ sm

Airport Identifier: _____

Direction From Airport: _____ degrees true

Proximity to Airport: ☐ Off Airport/Airstrip ☐ On Airport/Airstrip ☐ N/A

Airport Elevation: _____ ft. msl

Runway Information

Runway ID: _____ (L/R/C) Length: _____ ft Width: _____ ft

Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Asphalt ☐ Grass/Turf ☐ Macadam ☐ Water
☐ Concrete ☐ Gravel ☐ Metal/Wood
☐ Dirt ☐ Ice ☐ Snow ☐ Unknown

Condition of Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Dry ☐ Snow-Compacted ☐ Water-Calm
☐ Holes ☐ Snow-Crusted ☐ Water-Choppy
☐ Ice Covered ☐ Snow-Dry ☐ Water-Glassy
☐ Rough ☐ Snow-Wet ☐ Wet
☐ Rubber Deposits ☐ Soft
☐ Slush-Covered ☐ Vegetation ☐ Unknown

Approach/Departure Segment (Select one)

- ☐ Taxi ☐ VFR Departure ☐ On Instrument Approach ☐ Downwind ☐ Low Approach
☐ Takeoff ☐ IFR Departure Procedure/Clearance ☐ Landing ☐ Base ☐ Go Around
☐ Initial Climb ☐ Aborted Landing (after touchdown)
☐ Crosswind ☐ Unknown

IFR Approach (Check all that apply)

- ☐ None
☐ ADF/NDB ☐ PAR ☐ MLS ☐ Practice
☐ SDF ☐ Sidestep ☐ LDA ☐ GPS
☐ VOR/TVOR ☐ ILS ☐ ASR
☐ VOR/DME ☐ Localizer Only ☐ Visual
☐ TACAN ☐ LOC-back course ☐ Contact
☐ RNAV ☐ Circling

☐ Unknown

VFR Approach (Check all that apply)

- ☐ None
☐ Traffic Pattern ☐ Stop and Go
☐ Straight-In ☐ Touch and Go
☐ Valley/Terrain Following ☐ Simulated Forced Landing
☐ Go Around ☐ Forced Landing
☐ Full Stop ☐ Precautionary Landing

☐ Unknown

"FLIGHT CREWMEMBER 1" INFORMATION

"Flight Crewmember 1" Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident

☒ Pilot
 ☐ Co-Pilot
 ☐ Student Pilot
 ☐ Flight Instructor
 ☐ Check Pilot
 ☐ Flight Engineer
 ☐ Other Flight Crew

"Flight Crewmember 1" was pilot flying ☒ Yes ☐ No

"Flight Crewmember 1" Identification

First Name: Laurance City of Residence: _____
 Middle Initial: J State: _____ ZIP: _____
 Last Name: Suter Country: _____
 Age at time of Accident/Incident: 73 Date of Birth: mm/dd/yyyy
 Certificate Number:

Degree of Injury ☐ None ☐ Fatal ☐ Minor ☐ Unknown ☒ Serious	Seat Occupied ☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Unknown ☐ Right ☐ Rear ☒ Center ☐ Single	Restraint Type <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Available</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Used</th> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ None</td> <td>☐ None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Lap only</td> <td>☐ Lap only</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ 3-point</td> <td>☐ 3-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☒ 4-point</td> <td>☒ 4-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ 5-point</td> <td>☐ 5-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Unknown</td> <td>☐ Unknown</td> </tr> </table>	Available	Used	☐ None	☐ None	☐ Lap only	☐ Lap only	☐ 3-point	☐ 3-point	☒ 4-point	☒ 4-point	☐ 5-point	☐ 5-point	☐ Unknown	☐ Unknown	Inflatable Restraints ☒ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown
Available	Used																
☐ None	☐ None																
☐ Lap only	☐ Lap only																
☐ 3-point	☐ 3-point																
☒ 4-point	☒ 4-point																
☐ 5-point	☐ 5-point																
☐ Unknown	☐ Unknown																
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Flight Instructor ☒ Commercial ☐ US Military ☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign ☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer		Medical Certificate Validity ☐ Without limitations/waivers ☐ Unknown ☐ With limitations/waivers ☒ N/A ☐ Special Issuance															
Principal Occupation ☐ Pilot ☒ Other ☐ Unknown	Medical Certificate ☒ None ☐ Class 3 ☐ Class 1 ☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only) ☐ Class 2 ☐ Unknown		Date of Last Medical <u>04/01/2018</u> mm/dd/yyyy														

Medical Certificate Limitations

Corrective Lenses Required

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks:

02/09/2020
mm/dd/yyyy

Flight Review Aircraft

Make: Grob
 Model: 103

Airplane Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☒ Single-Engine Land ☐ Single-Engine Sea ☐ Multiengine Land ☐ Multiengine Sea	Other Aircraft Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Airship ☐ Balloon ☒ Glider ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift	Instrument Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☒ Airplane ☐ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift	Instructor Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Powered Lift ☐ Instrument Airplane ☐ Instrument Helicopter ☐ Helicopter ☒ Glider ☐ Sport
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Type Ratings

Student Endorsements (Include dates)

Flight Time (Enter appropriate number of hours in each box)	All Aircraft	This Make & Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time	2,794									
Pilot in Command (PIC)	2,723									
Time as Instructor	888									
This Make/Model										
Last 90 Days	31	21	3						28	
Last 30 Days	7	1	2						5	
Last 24 Hours	1	1							1	

“FLIGHT CREWMEMBER 2” INFORMATION

“Flight Crewmember 2” Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident

☐ Pilot
 ☐ Co-Pilot
 ☐ Student Pilot
 ☐ Flight Instructor
 ☐ Check Pilot
 ☐ Flight Engineer
 ☐ Other Flight Crew

“Flight Crewmember 2” was pilot flying ☐ Yes ☐ No

“Flight Crewmember 2” Identification

First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____
 Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 Last Name: _____ Country: _____
 Age at time of Accident/Incident: _____ Date of Birth: _____ mm/dd/yyyy
 Certificate Number: _____

Degree of Injury ☐ None ☐ Fatal ☐ Minor ☐ Unknown ☐ Serious	Seat Occupied ☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Unknown ☐ Right ☐ Rear ☐ Center ☐ Single	Restraint Type <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Available</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Used</th> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ None</td> <td>☐ None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Lap only</td> <td>☐ Lap only</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ 3-point</td> <td>☐ 3-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ 4-point</td> <td>☐ 4-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ 5-point</td> <td>☐ 5-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Unknown</td> <td>☐ Unknown</td> </tr> </table>	Available	Used	☐ None	☐ None	☐ Lap only	☐ Lap only	☐ 3-point	☐ 3-point	☐ 4-point	☐ 4-point	☐ 5-point	☐ 5-point	☐ Unknown	☐ Unknown	Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown				
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☐ 3-point	☐ 3-point																				
☐ 4-point	☐ 4-point																				
☐ 5-point	☐ 5-point																				
☐ Unknown	☐ Unknown																				
Pilot Certificate(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>☐ None</td> <td>☐ Flight Instructor</td> <td>☐ Commercial</td> <td>☐ US Military</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Private</td> <td>☐ Recreational</td> <td>☐ Airline Transport</td> <td>☐ Foreign</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Student</td> <td>☐ Sport</td> <td>☐ Flight Engineer</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		☐ None	☐ Flight Instructor	☐ Commercial	☐ US Military	☐ Private	☐ Recreational	☐ Airline Transport	☐ Foreign	☐ Student	☐ Sport	☐ Flight Engineer		Medical Certificate Validity <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>☐ Without limitations/waivers</td> <td>☐ Unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ With limitations/waivers</td> <td>☐ N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Special Issuance</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		☐ Without limitations/waivers	☐ Unknown	☐ With limitations/waivers	☐ N/A	☐ Special Issuance	
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☐ Special Issuance																					
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☐ None	☐ Class 3																				
☐ Class 1	☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only)																				
☐ Class 2	☐ Unknown																				

Medical Certificate Limitations

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks: _____
 mm/dd/yyyy

Flight Review Aircraft

Make: _____
Model: _____

Airplane Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☐ None ☐ Single-Engine Land ☐ Single-Engine Sea ☐ Multiengine Land ☐ Multiengine Sea	Other Aircraft Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☐ None ☐ Airship ☐ Balloon ☐ Glider ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift	Instrument Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☐ None ☐ Airplane ☐ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift	Instructor Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td> ☐ None ☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Powered Lift </td> <td> ☐ Instrument Airplane ☐ Instrument Helicopter ☐ Helicopter ☐ Glider ☐ Sport </td> </tr> </table>	☐ None ☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Powered Lift	☐ Instrument Airplane ☐ Instrument Helicopter ☐ Helicopter ☐ Glider ☐ Sport
☐ None ☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Powered Lift	☐ Instrument Airplane ☐ Instrument Helicopter ☐ Helicopter ☐ Glider ☐ Sport				

Type Ratings

Student Endorsements *(Include dates)*

Flight Time <i>(Enter appropriate number of hours in each box)</i>	All Aircraft	This Make & Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time										
Pilot in Command (PIC)										
Time as Instructor										
This Make/Model										
Last 90 Days										
Last 30 Days										
Last 24 Hours										

ADDITIONAL FLIGHT CREWMEMBERS (Exclusive of cabin crew, complete the following information)									
Crew Name and Address					Seat Occupied		Injury		
First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____					☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Center ☐ Rear ☐ Right ☐ Single ☐ Unknown		☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown		
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Private ☐ Student ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Recreational ☐ Sport ☐ Commercial ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Flight Engineer ☐ US Military ☐ Foreign					Restraint Type: Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown		
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No			Total Flight Time at the Time of this Accident/Incident: _____ hrs						
Crew Name and Address					Seat Occupied		Injury		
First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____					☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Center ☐ Rear ☐ Right ☐ Single ☐ Unknown		☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown		
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Private ☐ Student ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Recreational ☐ Sport ☐ Commercial ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Flight Engineer ☐ US Military ☐ Foreign					Restraint Type: Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown		
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No			Total Flight Time at the Time of this Accident/Incident: _____ hrs						
PASSENGER(S) / OTHER PERSONNEL (Include cabin crew; continue on separate sheet if necessary)									
Name and Address			Seat	Injury	Restraint Type		Inflatable Restraints	Age	
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other			☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years <i>If Under 5,</i> ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other			☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years <i>If Under 5,</i> ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other			☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years <i>If Under 5,</i> ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other			☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years <i>If Under 5,</i> ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	

FLIGHT ITINERARY INFORMATION

Last Departure Point Airport ID: <u>C83</u> City: <u>Byron</u> State: <u>CA</u> Country: <u>USA</u>	Time of Departure Time: <u>1205</u> Time Zone: <u>PST</u>	Destination Airport ID: <u>C83</u> City: <u>Byron</u> State: <u>CA</u> Country: <u>USA</u>	Type Flight Plan Filed ☒ None ☐ VFR/IFR ☐ Company VFR ☐ IFR ☐ Military VFR ☐ Unknown ☐ VFR Activated? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
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Type of ATC Clearance/Service (Check all that apply)

☒ None	☐ Special VFR	☐ Special IFR	☐ VFR Flight Following	☐ Cruise
☐ VFR	☐ IFR	☐ VFR On Top	☐ Traffic Advisory	☐ Unknown / NA

Airspace where the accident/incident occurred (Check all that apply)

☐ Class A	☐ Class G	☐ Military Operations Area (MOA)	☐ Special	Altitude of In-Flight Occurrence: <u>5300</u> ft msl
☐ Class B	☐ Demo Area	☐ Airport Advisory Area	☐ Air Traffic Control Area	
☐ Class C	☐ Warning Area	☐ Jet Training Area	☐ Unknown	
☐ Class D	☐ Prohibited Area	☐ TRSA		
☒ Class E	☐ Restricted Area	☐ FAR 93		

WEATHER INFORMATION AT THE ACCIDENT/INCIDENT SITE

Source of Pilot Weather Information

(Check all that apply)

☒ National Weather Service	☐ Company
☐ Flight Service Station	☐ Military
☐ TV/Radio	☒ Internet
☐ Automated Report	☐ None
☐ Commercial Weather Service (DUATS)	☐ Unknown
☐ On-Board Weather	

Weather Observation Facility

Facility ID: _____
 Observation Time: _____
 Time Zone: _____
 Distance from Accident Site: _____ nm
 Direction from Accident Site: _____ degrees true

Basic Conditions

☒ VMC
☐ IMC
☐ Unknown

Light Condition

☐ Dawn ☐ Dusk ☐ Dark Night ☐ Unknown
☒ Day ☐ Night ☐ Bright Night

Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition

☐ Clear ☒ Thin Broken
☐ Few ☐ Thin Overcast
☐ Partial Obscuration ☐ Unknown
☐ Scattered

Lowest Cloud Condition Height

6000 ft agl

Ceiling

☐ None (Clear) ☐ Obscured
☒ Broken ☐ Indefinite
☐ Overcast ☐ Unknown

Ceiling Height

6000 ft agl

Temperature: _____ (C) or _____ (F)

Dew Point: _____ (C) or _____ (F)

Altimeter Setting: _____ in Hg
 or _____ MB

Wind Direction

☒ Variable
 -or-
 Direction: _____ degrees true

Wind Speed

☒ Calm
☐ Light and Variable
 -or-
 Speed: _____ kts

Wind Gusts

☒ Not Gusting
 -or-
 Speed: _____ kts

Visibility 20 miles

RVR: _____ feet

RVV: _____ miles

Density Altitude: _____ ft

Intensity of Precipitation

☐ Light
☐ Moderate
☐ Heavy
☒ N/A
☐ Unknown

Type of Precipitation (Check all that apply)

☒ None	☐ Drizzle	☐ Freezing Rain
☐ Rain	☐ Ice Pellets	☐ Snow Shower
☐ Snow	☐ Snow Pellets	☐ Ice Pellets Shower
☐ Hail	☐ Snow Grains	☐ Freezing Drizzle
☐ Rain Showers	☐ Ice Crystals	

Restriction to Visibility (Check all that apply)

☒ None	☐ Fog
☐ Blowing Dust	☐ Ground Fog
☐ Blowing Sand	☐ Haze
☐ Blowing Snow	☐ Ice Fog
☐ Blowing Spray	☐ Smoke
☐ Dust	☐ Unknown

Icing Forecast

Amount	Type
☒ None	☒ N/A
☐ Trace	☐ Rime
☐ Light	☐ Clear
☐ Moderate	☐ Mixed
☐ Severe	☐ Unknown
☐ Unknown	

Icing Actual

Amount	Type
☒ None	☒ N/A
☐ Trace	☐ Rime
☐ Light	☐ Clear
☐ Moderate	☐ Mixed
☐ Severe	☐ Unknown
☐ Unknown	

Turbulence

Type (Check all that apply)	Severity
☒ None	☐ Light
☐ Clear Air	☐ Moderate
☐ Terrain-Induced	☐ Severe
☐ Convective Turbulence	☐ Extreme

NOTAMs (D and FDC), AIRMETs, SIGMETs, PIREPs in effect at the time of the accident/incident:

None in the local area around c83

DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT AND OTHER PROPERTY**Aircraft Damage**

- ☐ None ☒ Substantial
☐ Minor ☐ Destroyed
 ☐ Unknown

Aircraft Fire

- ☒ None ☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ In-Flight ☐ Fire at Unknown Time
☐ On-Ground ☐ Unknown

Aircraft Explosion

- ☒ None ☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ In-Flight ☐ Explosion at Unknown Time
☐ On-Ground ☐ Unknown

Description of Damage to Aircraft and Other Property (Use additional sheet if necessary)

Large gouge in the left wing from the leading edge to the spar. Tailboom broken. Canopy broken.

NARRATIVE HISTORY OF FLIGHT (Please type or print in ink)

Describe what occurred in chronological order, including circumstances leading to and nature of accident/incident. Describe terrain and include wreckage distribution sketch if pertinent. Attach extra sheets if needed. State departure time and location, services obtained, and intended destination. Provide as much detail as possible.

The soaring forecast for Saturday, November 7th indicated excellent conditions for long soaring flights out of Byron. There was a lot of chatter about the promising weather on my club's (Northern California Soaring Association) email group with several of us indicating we would come out to Byron Airport (C83, our club's base) to assemble our gliders and fly.

I arrived about 9:30 Saturday AM to assemble my ASW-27 N81KP. After assembling, doing critical assembly checks and talking with other club members, I pushed down to the launch point on Byron's runway 30. I was the third private pilot in line for a tow. I took off around 12:05, about 15 minutes after the previous glider, N18MA. This was the other glider in the mid-air collision some 40 minutes later.

Here I should point out that I was flying independently; not team flying with any of the other gliders that were taking off from Byron that day.

The cloud pattern indicated no lift in the Byron area but wide areas of lift over the hills to the west of Byron. The tow plane took me in that direction and I released about 3800' MSL near an isolated cloud that had lift. I worked that lift until I had gained 1000' or so and then flew in a westward direction to get under what looked to be a broad area of lift marked by many cumulus clouds. The lift in this area was working as promised so I climbed in it to about 5500'. I estimated to cloud base to be 6000' or so.

As I was circling I saw that Mt Diablo, to the north of me, was now in a shadow indicating there was lift over the peak so I headed in that direction. I circled in lift over Mt Diablo a few times and then continued northward to see if some "whispies" I saw a mile or so in that direction were indicating lift. I got in the vicinity of the whispies and could not find any lift so I decided to fly southward under the broad area of very promising clouds to the south of Mt Diablo. I circled a bit over Mt Diablo to gain some altitude and set off towards the east side of the Livermore Valley. As I recall, the lift just south of Mt Diablo seemed to be broad enough that I might be able to fly to Livermore without stopping to circle.

A very few minutes after heading off to Livermore another glider Suddenly appeared out of nowhere less than a wingspan away from me on the left hand side. In my mind's eye, that glider was in a moderate bank to the right. The whole sighting lasted for less than 1/2 second, ending with a violent crash. Immediately my glider seemed to be pointing towards the ground and out of control. I made a snap decision to bail out and followed the "canopy, belt, butt, look at the D-ring" emergency sequence we periodically practice for bailing out. I pulled the two red emergency release handles and the canopy instantly flew off. I then twisted the release mechanism on my four point harness to release the belt. I guess the plane was somewhat inverted because as soon as I released the belt I found myself outside the plane in free fall amidst a debris field. I looked at the D-ring on my parachute harness, grabbed it, pulled it and the parachute deployed.

I estimate my parachute descent took about two minutes. I could see the parachute of the other pilot well below me. There are lines on the parachute you can pull to cause it to turn left or right. I tried these and used them to face in the downward direction of the brown grass slope I could see I would be landing on. As the earth approached I put my feet together and bent my knees. In the last few seconds I could see that I was coming down quite fast. I hit with my feet and, instead of tumbling forward as in the videos, I slammed down on my backside.

I realized I was hurt, I rolled over to get out my cell phone and called 911. As I was trying to explain to the 911 operator where I was, two men on horseback came up and took over the 911 call. After laying on the ground for 10 minutes, or so, the pilot of the other glider, Paul, walked up. His parachute had been caught in a tree and left him dangling close to the ground. Hewas uninjured.

I ended up being moved by helicopter to John Muir Hospital in Walnut Creek. I was found to have compression fractures in my L2 & L3 vertebra, a broken tailbone and several scrapes and bruises.

RECOMMENDATION (How could this accident/incident have been prevented?)**Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation**

It's commonly said in the glider community that it's almost impossible to see a modern, high performance glider when it's coming right at you. In an effort to mitigate the risk of head-on and other collisions Europeans have developed an uncertificated electronic collision avoidance product called FLARM. In principle FLARM informs glider pilots when there's a conflict with another FLARM equipped glider. Both Paul's glider and my glider were equipped with FLARM. However, mine was inoperative awaiting an annual software update. I tried to update it several times during the season without any success. I had intended to have the A&P's at Williams Soaring look at it and correct it next time I had my glider at Williams this fall/winter.

My first recommendation is that the manufacturer of FLARM should not disable the device's collision avoidance functionality just because the latest software is not installed.

I will also recommend getting a larger parachute than indicated by your weight so you hit the ground more slowly.

MECHANICAL MALFUNCTION/FAILURE (If more space is needed, continue on separate sheet)

Was there Mechanical Malfunction/Failure? ☐ Yes ☒ No

(If yes, list the name of the part, manufacturer, part no., serial no., and describe the failure.)

**Total Time/Cycles
On Part**

_____ Hours

_____ Cycles

**Time Since This Part
Inspected/Overhauled**

_____ Hours

FUEL & SERVICES INFORMATION**Fuel on Board at Last Takeoff**

(Convert from pounds, as necessary)

N/A Gallons

Fuel Type

☐ 80/87

☐ 115/145

☐ Jet B

☐ Other, specify _____

☐ 100 Low Lead

☐ Jet A

☐ JP8

☐ 100/130

☐ Jet A-1

☐ Automotive

Other Services, if Any, Prior to Departure

EVACUATION OF AIRCRAFT

Was an emergency evacuation of the aircraft performed? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Method of Exit – Describe how the occupants exited and how many occupants evacuated each location

The pilot (only occupant of the glider) bailed out of the out of control glider and deployed his parachute.

OTHER AIRCRAFT – COLLISION (If air or ground collision occurred, complete this section for other aircraft)

Aircraft Registration Number

N18MA

Manufacturer: Alexander Schleicher

Model: AWS-20C

Damage to Other Aircraft

☐ Destroyed

☐ Minor

☒ Substantial

☐ None

Registered Owner of Other Aircraft

Name: Paul Lowenstein

City: Palo Alto

State: CA ZIP: _____

Country: Santa Clara

Pilot of Other Aircraft

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Country: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Please type or print in ink)

Use this space if additional space is needed for any answers.

I was hospitalized for 10 nights, 11 days after the accident. It's only since Friday, 11/20 that I could sit down with my laptop.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE

Date of this Report

11/19/2020

mm/dd/yyyy

Name of Pilot/Operator: Laurance J Suter

Signature: _____

-- or -- ☒ Check here to electronically sign this document

If a Person Other than Pilot/Operator is Filing Report

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

-- or -- ☐ Check here to electronically sign this document

FOR NTSB USE ONLY

NTSB Accident/Incident No.

WPR21LA040

Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office

WPR

Name of Investigator

Eric M. Gutierrez

Date Report Received

11/23/2020