



Elliott Simpson
Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
AS-WPR

Date: May 20, 2023

Subject: WPR23LA193

Contact: Lacey Utter

I was the NTSB duty officer for the accident involving N77J in American Falls, ID on May 20, 2023.

I received a call from the accident site from Deputy Martinez. He also sent a series of photos. One photo included a fuel selector valve in the "OFF" position. Deputy Martinez stated that this was how he found the valve, and he did not move it prior to taking the photo.

I then spoke to the pilot Lacey Utter. She stated that's after reaching about 600 ft agl following takeoff from runway 3, the engine lost all power. With limited time to trouble shoot, she performed a forced landing into a field. She stated that she normally takes off with the left tank selected, and for this accident remembered on climbout that she had the right tank selected. She switched to the left tank but believes she instead switched the valve to OFF. After landing, she looked at the valve and it was in the OFF position. She stated that there were no mechanical issues, and the accident was caused purely by "pilot error".