



Dan Baker
Senior Air Safety Investigator
AS-WPR

Date: May 1, 2024

Subject: WPR24FA132, Record of Conversation

Contact: Logan Foster, Safety Officer and Site Engineer, Atlantic Richfield

On April 26, 2024, a Bell 206L Helicopter (N988B), operated by Heliworks Flight Services and conducting aerial application operations, crashed near Anaconda, Montana, on Atlantic Richfield property.

Mr. Foster stated his role was to oversee and coordinate the work being performed by Heliworks. He said he arrived about 0605 and opened the site. He checked Chris Rannemose (Heliworks ground crewman) into the site about 0620. The pilot landed a few minutes later and shut down the helicopter. He then conducted a safety briefing and coordinated what work was to be done the day of the accident. He said the wind was dead calm, but the weather would deteriorate in the afternoon. He said the pilot normally flew over the area to be worked prior to landing for the briefings.

Mr. Foster said that after the briefing he moved his truck to a parking lot about 75 yds from the load truck/trailer and faced his truck towards the trailer. He said he then performed work on his computer while the operations were underway. He wasn't sure, but he thought the helicopter had picked up 4-5 loads before he stopped hearing the helicopter. He decided to drive up the haul road and that is when he saw the helicopter [crashed in the ravine beside him]. He said there were flashing lights that first caught his attention. He drove down to pick up Mr. Rannemose and returned to the crash site. He started to respond to the helicopter with Mr. Rannemose, but turned around and went to the access gate to the property to meet first responders.

Mr. Foster did not observe the helicopter perform a go-around prior to picking up the last load. He did not state that he heard the accident. He said the wind remained calm for a couple hours after the accident.