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Date: July 2, 2024

Subject: WPR24FA215 / Record of Conversation

Contact: [REDACTED]

In a telephone conversation with [REDACTED], he stated that he was in the Big Creek Lodge with his son and [REDACTED] waiting for dinner. It was about 1715 when he heard what he described as the unmistakable sound of an airplane six-cylinder engine and the popping of the propeller at full power. He looked out the window and saw an airplane flying "uphill." He wondered who was doing a fly-by and why are they doing it that way.

He stepped out on the deck and saw the airplane with the nose up, making full power and it didn't look to be climbing. He described it as appearing to be mushing. He said for the next five to ten seconds the flight path was moving right to left and wasn't doing anything significant. The airplane was heading to the tree line. He noticed the left wing drop but not like a fully developed stall/spin. The airplane was still progressing forward. He saw the forest just consume the airplane. He could only hear the engine and the plane just disappeared. [REDACTED] took off running toward the accident. He started to push the SOS on his Garmin inReach but thought to call his wife before doing that. During the interview, [REDACTED] checked his phone and concluded that he first called 911 about 4 times before reaching them. The time was 1733. He then estimated that the accident occurred about 1725. He notified his wife and then pressed the SOS on his inReach. He initially stayed with his son but left for the accident site. He grabbed gear and went to the site. He arrived at the site. He saw that there was one conscious passenger and one deceased. The passenger was conscious but he was pinned in the wreckage. The passenger was in pain. [REDACTED] gave praise to [REDACTED] for his efforts in extricating the passenger. [REDACTED] realized that his inReach had not sent a signal, so he went back to the lodge and called and updated 911.

Around 20 minutes later the helicopter arrived and landed at the airfield. The medics were transported by vehicle to the site where the passenger was out and laying down on the ground.