

Grant Mills
Air Safety Investigator
Western Pacific Region

Date: May 4, 2026

Subject: WPR26LA173, Memorandum for Record

Contact: [REDACTED], Flight Instructor

The following is a synopsis of the information provided by [REDACTED] in a telephone conversation.

The flight instructor reported that the model of the Sling Alpha Trainer that he was flying during the accident did not have electronic fuel gauges. Fuel quantity onboard the airplane is indicated through opaque purple tubes in the cockpit. During preflight inspection, both he and the student pilot thought that they saw an air bubble at the top of the fuel indicator tubes, which would indicate full fuel tanks. They did not look into the fuel tanks or dip the fuel tanks to verify the quantity of fuel onboard. The accident flight was the second flight the flight instructor had conducted in this model. Additionally, the flight instructor reported that the wing fuel tanks of the accident airplane could not be dipped by a conventional, straw-like, fuel tank gauge to verify fuel quantity.