



MEMORANDUM OF RECORD

Eric Alleyne
Air Safety Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board
Office of Aviation Safety - Eastern
Region

NTSB Case Number: ERA17LA007

Subject: Flying Flea, N83165
examination and notes

Parties: FAA inspector

The aircraft crash date & time was verified by FAA IIC notes, FAA Form 8020-23 data, FAA C-ROC telecom phone call, as well as On-Scene First-Responder's eye witness testimony. The aircraft had departed from N41 on 10/06/2016 at approximately 1630 hours, and flew for approximately 30 minutes before experiencing loss of engine power problems and the subsequent crash into the trees near a lake. During the on-scene accident investigation, there was still adequate useable fuel on board the aircraft and no water in the fuel. As the experimental amateur built aircraft was configured with a BMW R100 motorcycle engine and was subsequently relocated to the owners personal aircraft hangar, no engine teardown inspection was accomplished. After multiple attempts to try and contact the incident pilot who was hospitalized in critical condition, and endured many months of surgeries and subsequent rehabilitation, his wife stated he could not at all remember the accident.

The observations at the scene appear to corroborate the stories of the eyewitness and Mr. Jim Ouellette, who lives on the airport property. Both men stated the accident aircraft, N83165, was doing pattern work at N41, taking off and landing to south. After approximately 30 minutes, the engine sputtered multiple times and both men saw the aircraft now traveling in the opposite direction and it eventually crashed into the southeast corner of the lake just east of the airport. Initial findings indicate small crash site with the aircraft largely still intact. The prop and surrounding trees where the aircraft appeared to impact showed very few signs of damage. This would indicate little or no engine power at impact. There was still useable fuel onboard at the time of the accident.