

Inspectors Statement

N5765H – Mooney M20J
Engine Inspection
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December 10, 2019

On December 10, 2019 I, Peter J. Kandravi from the Orlando FSDO, a Principal Maintenance Inspector visited the Florida Aircraft Recovery facility located in Jacksonville, Florida. The purpose of the visit was to try to determine the cause of the engine stoppage on Mooney N5765H that landed in the water off of St. Augustine (SGJ) airport on November 10, 2019.

Upon arrival to the facility I found the aircraft parked outside with the wings removed and the top engine cowling removed.

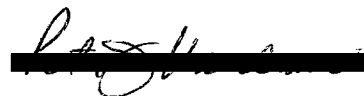
I proceeded to visually inspect the engine for any obvious defects, none found. It was easily determined that the aircraft and engine were submerged in water (brackish) with many of the engine showing signs of a white dust / corrosion.

The fuel injector divider located on the top of the engine was split apart looking for any sign of fuel in the divider. None was found. The only thing that was found was a white crystalized power similar to salt. (Reference Picture) The taste test to me tasted slightly salty, as if the fuel had made it way up to the divider while submerged.

Each individual fuel injector was removed and inspected. The annual inspection had just been completed and the left fuel tank was reworked for leaks. My thought process was I was looking for possible blockage in an injector or a series of injectors causing the engine to run rough or quit. Upon the inspection of all the injectors they showed signs of the white residue / powder on each one of them. Also the bottom of each injector showed was covered with the white substance. Each injector was checked for a blockage and none were found to be blocked. (Reference Picture)

I also removed the top spark plugs and inspected them for obvious damage. Each plug looked as if it was operating normally when the engine quit. Each ignition lead was inspected and there was no abnormalities found. (Reference Picture)

I removed the Brackett air filter and inspected the air-box for anything out of the ordinary. No abnormalities were found.



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