



RECORD OF COMMUNICATION

Michael Huhn
Air Safety Investigator
Western Pacific Region

Date: February 21, 2012
Person Contacted: Mr. Donald Eick (NTSB AS-30)
NTSB Accident Number: WPR12GA106

Narrative: The following information was provided in an email sent by Mr. Eick on this date:

Synoptic conditions – The NWS Surface Analysis Chart for February 15, 2012 for 1100 MST (1800Z) depicted a high pressure system over the northwest portion of Wyoming and a ridge of high pressure extending over the state. The station models indicated light easterly winds in the Jackson, WY area with a temperature of 16° F and a dew point of 6° F.

The official METARs for **Jackson Hole Airport (KJAC)** were as follows:

METAR KJAC 151854Z 0000KT 10SM SCT040 M06/M11 A2997=
METAR KJAC 151951Z 09004KT 10SM FEW045 M06/M09 A2996=
METAR KJAC 152054Z 10003KT 10SM SCT035 M04/M09 A2996=

The 1700 MST **Riverton, Wyoming sounding** located 86 miles from the accident site depicted light easterly winds of less than 10 knots below 9,000 feet. No indications of any low-level wind shear.

Satellite indicated a few clouds over the area with no indications of any convective activity.

MESONET – a review of NWS and other Remote Weather Stations across the state at 1230 MST indicated light winds of less than 10 knots.

Several reporting stations included:

*Grouse Mountain at 10,380 feet location 43.7221° N, -110.2575° W immediately west of the accident site. System operated by the Bridger Teton National Forecast Avalanche Center.

1200 MST observation indicated a wind from NNW at 2 MPH with highest hourly wind gust at 5 MPH, temperature 23° F, dew point 21° F, RH 91%.

1245 MST observation indicated wind calm, temperature 21° F, dew point 19° F, RH 91%.

Raspberry at 8,833 feet, wind W at 2 MPH, temperature 33° F, dew point 8° F, relative humidity 34%. Location 43.4728° N, -110.0183° W.

Summary - high pressure dominating over the area. Jackson and Grouse Mountain both indicated light winds of 5 knots or less.