

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: CEN18FA217 - Tow Pilot
Date: Tuesday, July 3, 2018 08:08:13

Mike,

Here is Sonny's response to your questions.

Peter

From: Alfred Knowles <[REDACTED]>
Date: July 3, 2018 at 7:27:27 AM MDT
To: Colleen <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: NTSB Questions

I don't remember seeing much bird activity, but I didn't specifically look for bird activity that day either.

There was no turbulence that seemed out of the ordinary, and the flight seemed smoother than the average tow flight I had done. A few very light bumps when we would come across an area of decent lift (400-600 fpm). My return back to the airport was pretty smooth also, with some light bumps near Targhee and the Mouth of Teton Canyon. I would say all below 11'500 or even lower. The flight was different in the sense that we gained a lot more altitude in the valley than we normally did, and were higher approaching the foothills and mountains than on all other tow flights I have done previously. Perhaps that's why it seemed so smooth.

I don't think I could provide an accurate estimate of wind speed and direction at the time of release. I know on the ground it was favoring the south east, and that the wind had noticeably increased from the time I departed to when I landed. The winds aloft were in the low to mid 20's when I checked them before the flight. I couldn't confidently say the direction aloft.

I hope this helps some, but this is all I can remember.

On Jul 2, 2018, at 12:14 PM, Hodges Michael <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Peter,

Can you please ask Sonny –

1. Did Sonny see any bird activity during his flight?
2. Did Sonny experience any turbulence during his flight?
3. When the glider was released at 13,800 – does Sonny have an estimate of the wind speed and direction at the time?

Thanks again.

Mike

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“From tragedy we draw knowledge to improve the safety of us all.”

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