



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Central Region - Denver, Colorado

Record of Communication

Person Providing Communication: Nicholas Loftus, FAA
Subject: – CEN20CA236
Date: 8/6/2020

Mr. Loftus provided the following communication regarding his examination and investigation of N224HW:

“The pilot stated he believed he was about to exhaust his fuel supply and decided to make a precautionary landing. During the landing, the airplane veered left into a roadside drainage ditch. Upon entering the ditch, the propeller impacted the ground and the tail section received substantial damage. A visual examination of the aircraft’s fuel tanks revealed that the left auxiliary tank was approximately ½ full (approximately 8.5 gallons) and the right auxiliary fuel tank was approximately ¾ full (approximately 12.75 gallons).”

“The type certificate data sheet for the aircraft shows that the auxiliary tanks hold 17 gallons and all 17 gallons are usable. The aircraft had approximately 21 gallons of fuel remaining when the precautionary landing was attempted. This equates to approximately 1 hour of flight time at normal cruise power settings. The location of the accident was 9 miles from the Greater Kankakee Airport (IKK).”

Dan Baker
National Transportation Safety Board
Air Safety Investigator