



NTSB MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

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National Transportation Safety Board

Date: 1/19/2022
Person Contacted: RODNEY WHIPPLE (Pilot in Command)
NTSB Accident Number: ERA22LA110

Narrative:

The individual noted above provided the following information via a telephone call. The below contents are a summary of what was reported:

- On final approach, the airplane was stabilized, and the approach speed was about 70 MPH, which was about 10 MPH faster than normal. He planned to carry the extra speed because of a "strong north wind."
- About ¼ mile from touchdown, he glanced down at the airspeed indicator, and then glanced up and "all of a sudden" a flock of birds flew into the airplane. He said it was "like a wall" or like a "machine gun" going off in his flight path. He said the birds collided with the airplane and after that point he "was a passenger". He recalled the airplane entered an aerodynamic stall and spin and subsequently descended and impacted trees and terrain.
- He reported that he owned the airplane and that there were no mechanical problems with the airplane at any point during the flight.
- The flight departed Angier, NC airport, which was his home airport. It was a local flight the lasted about one hour in duration. He had practiced air work earlier in the flight.
- He reported he sustained serious injuries.

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