



# Aviation Investigation Preliminary Report

<b>Location:</b>	Auburn, WA	<b>Accident Number:</b>	WPR24LA074
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	January 16, 2024, 11:30 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N920MB
<b>Aircraft:</b>	BECK MICHAEL J SONEX	<b>Injuries:</b>	
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

On January 16, 2024, at 1130 Pacific standard time, a Sonex experimental amateur-built airplane N920MB was substantially damaged when it was involved in an accident on a public road near the Auburn Municipal Airport (KS50) Auburn, Washington. The pilot was not injured. The airplane was operated as a *Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 personal flight.

The pilot reported that shortly after takeoff during the climb, he experienced a partial loss power and began to descend. The pilot planned to land the airplane on a road straight ahead, but several seconds later the engine regained power, enabling the airplane to climb. Approximately forty seconds later, the airplane experienced a total loss of power. The pilot turned in the direction of the airport while in a forced descent, where its wingtip collided with a business sign that spun its orientation in the opposite direction, coming to rest by impacting a light post. The airplane sustained substantial damage to both wings and fuselage.

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	BECK MICHAEL J	<b>Registration:</b>	N920MB
<b>Model/Series:</b>	SONEX	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Amateur Built:</b>			
<b>Operator:</b>	GROVER DANIEL A	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>			

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	VMC	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KSEA,434 ft msl	<b>Observation Time:</b>	11:53 Local
<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	30 Nautical Miles	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	1°C /-14°C
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Scattered / 18000 ft AGL	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	/ ,
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Broken / 23000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility:</b>	10 miles
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29.97 inches Hg	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Auburn, WA (S50)	<b>Destination:</b>	Auburn, WA

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	47.342702,-122.2224 (est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Basti, Paymaun
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Christopher Tuman; FAA; Seattle, WA
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class 3</a>
<b>Note:</b>	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.