

Aviation Investigation Preliminary Report

Location: Loleta, CA Accident Number: WPR24LA210

Date & Time: June 20, 2024, 10:40 Local Registration: N141PB

Aircraft: LANCAIR COMPANY LC42-550FG Injuries: 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

On June 20, 2024, about 1040 Pacific daylight time, a Lancair LC42-550FG (Columbia 350), N141PB sustained substantial damaged when it was involved in an accident near Loleta, California. The pilot was not injured. The airplane was operated as a Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91 flight.

The airplane had just departed Murray Field Airport, Eureka, California after receiving an instrument flight rules flight plan to Napa County Airport, Napa, California. Shortly after departing, the airplane passed through a cloud layer, after which it broke out into visual meteorological conditions at an altitude of about 1,500 ft mean sea level (msl). As the airplane climbed through 2,300 ft, the pilot established communications with Seattle Air Route Traffic Control Center. About one minute later he noticed a change in engine noise, with an accompanying vibration. The engine monitor indicated the cylinder head temperature for cylinder no. 6 was rising, and a short time later the engine lost all power and appeared to seize.

The pilot declared an emergency and was provided vectors back to the airport. While the airplane was turning toward the airport, it descended into the cloud layer. The airplane broke out into visual conditions about 700 ft msl over coastal marshland. The pilot maneuvered the airplane toward the flattest looking area, and on touch down the airplane nosed over.

Post accident examination revealed the entire belly of the engine was coated in oil. The airplane has been retained for further examination.

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:LANCAIR COMPANYRegistration:N141PBModel/Series:LC42-550FGAircraft Category:Airplane

Amateur Built:

Operator: On file Operating Certificate(s) None

Held:

Operator Designator Code:

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	VMC	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KFOT,393 ft msl	Observation Time:	10:35 Local
Distance from Accident Site:	9 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	10°C /10°C
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots / , 340°
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 300 ft AGL	Visibility:	4 miles
Altimeter Setting:	29.95 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Departure Point:	Eureka, CA (EKA)	Destination:	Napa, CA (APA)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:		Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	40.69524,-124.21173

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Simpson, Eliott

Additional Participating Persons: Mike Palmer; FAA FSDO; Oakland, CA

Investigation Class: Class 3

Note: The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.

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