



## National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Grass Valley, CA	<b>Accident Number:</b>	WPR19LA003
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	10/08/2018, 1100 PDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N2250S
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Piper PA28	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

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On October 8, 2018, at 1100 Pacific daylight time, a Piper PA-28-161, N2250S, experienced a loss of engine power during cruise flight and the pilot subsequently made a forced landing to an open field about 6 miles northwest of Nevada County Airport (GOO), Grass Valley, California. The solo student pilot was not injured. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage. The airplane was registered to Fox Two LLC, and operated by Mach 5 Aviation as an instructional flight under the provisions of Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the flight that departed Auburn Municipal Airport (AUN), Auburn, California, at 0730. A visual flight rules (VFR) flight plan was filed.

According to the pilot, the airplane was fueled prior to departure from AUN; the left tank was full, and the right tank was filled "to the tabs." The airplane was not refueled during the cross-country flight.

The pilot planned the round robin cross-country flight from Auburn with intermediate landings at Lincoln (LHM), Colusa County (Oo8), Willows (WLW), Haigh (037), Red Bluff (RBL) Grass Valley (GOO) and back to AUN.

The accident flight was the second to last leg of the round robin cross-country flight. The pilot stated that about five miles from GOO, at 5,000 feet msl, the engine sputtered. The pilot cycled the fuel pump from the ON position to the OFF position, and back to the ON position with no change. The pilot attempted to restart the engine, to no avail, as the airplane descend. Unable to reach the intended destination, the pilot maneuvered the airplane to an open field. Upon touchdown, the nose landing gear collapsed, and the airplane spun before it came to rest coming to rest upright in the open field.

The airplane was recovered for further examination.

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Piper	<b>Registration:</b>	N2250S
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA28 161	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No		
<b>Operator:</b>	Mach 5 Aviation	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual Conditions	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	GOO, 31576 ft msl	<b>Observation Time:</b>	1100 PDT
<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	6 Nautical Miles	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	19° C / -5° C
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	7 knots / , 240°
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility:</b>	10 Miles
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	26.7 inches Hg	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	Unknown
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Red Bluff, CA (RBL)	<b>Destination:</b>	Grass Valley, CA (GOO)

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	39.237222, -121.111111 (est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Tealeye Cornejo
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Craig Miller; Federal Aviation Administration; Sacramento, CA
<b>Note:</b>	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.