



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

Location:	Modesto, CA	Accident Number:	WPR19LA267
Date & Time:	09/27/2019, 1945 PDT	Registration:	N8353T
Aircraft:	Piper PA28	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

On September 27, 2019, about 1945 Pacific daylight time, a Piper PA-28-236 airplane, N8353T, was destroyed when it impacted terrain following a complete loss of engine power near Modesto, California. The pilot was not injured. The airplane was registered to Positive Dynamic Aviation and operated by the pilot under the provisions of Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations Part 91*. A flight plan was filed but not activated. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the cross-country flight that originated from Truckee-Tahoe Airport, Truckee, California at 1850. The pilot's planned destination was San Martin Airport (E16), San Martin, California.

The pilot reported that he was about 20 minutes from E16 at 5,500 ft when he experienced a momentary partial loss of engine power. As a precaution, the pilot switched fuel tanks, turned on the fuel pump and carburetor heat and verified that all instrumentations indicated "green." Less than a minute later, he experienced a complete loss of engine power. The Air Traffic Control services offered to vector him to Modesto City-County Airport-Harry Sham Field, but the pilot realized he would not make it, so he elected to land on highway 99. To avoid a collision with ground vehicles, the pilot tried to land to the right of the highway but, during the landing sequence, the right wing contacted the light pole and separated from the fuselage. The airplane came to rest inverted and a postcrash fire ensued shortly after.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N8353T
Model/Series:	PA28 236	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:	No		
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:		Condition of Light:	
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KMOD, 73 ft msl	Observation Time:	0153 UTC
Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	24° C / 13° C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	9 knots / , 330°
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility:	10 Miles
Altimeter Setting:	29.75 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	
Departure Point:		Destination:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	37.625833, -120.954444 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Maja Smith
Additional Participating Persons:	
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.