



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

Location:	Shelter Cove, CA	Accident Number:	WPR20FAMS1
Date & Time:	10/24/2019, 2100 PDT	Registration:	N4958J
Aircraft:	Piper PA28R	Injuries:	2 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

On October 24, 2019, about 2100 Pacific daylight time, N4958J, a Piper PA-28R-180, departed from the Shelter Cove Airport (OQ5), Shelter Cove, California, with a destination of Gness Field Airport (DVO), Novato, California. The airplane did not arrive in Novato and was reported overdue by family. The airplane is presumed to have crashed. The private pilot and passenger have not been located. The airplane was registered to and operated by the pilot under the provisions of Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 as a personal cross-country flight. Dark night visual meteorological conditions prevailed in the area surrounding the accident flight and no flight plan had been filed.

According to witnesses, the pilot and passenger had departed from DVO about 1800 en route to OQ5 for dinner with a planned return to DVO that same evening. A witness observed the airplane depart OQ5 at 2100 and reported that the sky was "completely dark with no horizon."

On November 3, 2019, the search for the missing airplane was suspended; there was no wreckage debris located during the search.

According to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), there were no preflight weather briefings or Air Traffic services provided to the pilot.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N4958J
Model/Series:	PA28R 180	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:	No		
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KUKI, 626 ft msl	Observation Time:	2056 PDT
Distance from Accident Site:	53 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	31 ° C / -9 ° C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	3 knots / , Variable
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility:	10 Miles
Altimeter Setting:	30.05 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Departure Point:	Shelter Cove, CA (0Q5)	Destination:	Novato, CA (DVO)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Unknown
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	Unknown
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	Unknown
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	39.789167, -123.971111 (est)

Administrative Information

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