

BRS Save #159



I was flying low and slow over a wilderness area looking for a neighbor's lost horse when the engine spit out a spark plug. I was flying up a ridgeline at the time so I was able to gain some time and look for a clearing by doing a 180 down into the canyon. No clearings were visible and the only one I could think of was near the mouth of the canyon. Once I realized I couldn't glide that far I said "rats" for the 100th time and then looked for a spot to hit the chute over. A one-acre patch of second growth trees on the hillside to my left was the best I could do.

I heard the loud bang and was amazed at how fast I found myself nearly upside down as the chute stopped the nose of the plane and the tail swung underneath and then up. Since I was only about 200 feet up when I pulled the chute, the ride down was very short. The next thing I saw was a tree within arms reach on my right side holding the right wing up and causing the left wing and tail to contact the ground first. Between the tree, the left wing and tail all folding up, there wasn't even a bump when I hit the ground. I was able to walk away without even a scratch. I then had to hike out about five miles but with the adrenaline it was easy.

Model BRS-5 750
Serial Number 13800