



**NATRONA COUNTY CORONER'S OFFICE**

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**Jim Whipps, D-ABMDI, CORONER**

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**Taylor Jessee D-ABMDI LEAD CORONER'S DETECTIVE**



## PRESS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

**Date: April 7, 2023**

**Following Autopsy and Toxicology results, Natrona County Coroner James Whipps, has determined the manner and cause of death of 49 year old Brett Dean Smith, of Hyrum, Utah to be massive blunt force injuries, as the result of his single engine aircraft impacting the ground. There was no apparent health concern or medical event which preceded the accident and Toxicology results showed no impairment of the pilot. The cause of the accident is under investigation by the NTSB and may take significant time to determine due to the location of the accident and the hazards associated with recovering it. Any further information concerning the accident will come directly from the NTSB at a later date.**

Previous release

For Immediate Release Date: March 23, 2023 The Natrona County Coroner's Office in conjunction with the Natrona County Sherriff's Office, Natrona County Emergency Management, the NTSB and FAA, is investigating the death of a pilot involved in a single aircraft accident in the vicinity of Kortess Road in rural Natrona County. Natrona County Coroner James Whipps, has identified the decedent as 49 year old Brett Dean Smith from Hyrum, Utah. An autopsy is being scheduled and Next of Kin have been notified. Further information will be released as it becomes available. Contact: Jim Whipps, D-ABMDI, Coroner [natronacoroner@natrona.net](mailto:natronacoroner@natrona.net) 307-235-9458