

Flying instructor Graham White is believed to be one of the men killed in plane crash off NSW's south coast

• *Ben McCLELLAN The Daily Telegraph July 07, 2014 12:00AM*



Emergency crews scour the ocean off Batemans Bay for the location of the plane crash. Picture: Channel 9

ONE man has died and another is feared dead after a light plane crashed off the south coast yesterday.

The ultralight plane “fell” out of the sky about 1.5km east of Mossy Point, south of Batemans Bay, at 12.10pm.

The body of a middle-aged man with significant head injuries was recovered on the ocean surface near debris and an oil slick.



He was a flight instructor with more than 19,000 hours flying experience.



Graham White has been named as one of the men aboard the plane.

He was flown to Moruya Airport by the Westpac Life Saver Helicopter but could not be revived. It appeared he had been thrown from the plane, with the debris indicating the plane had hit the water at “high impact”, a helicopter spokesman said.

A search for another man, who may still be in the sunken plane wreck, was called off last night.

It is understood one of the men on the plane was Graham White of Wagga Wagga, a flying instructor at Moruya Aero Club with 19,000 hours of flying experience.



The flight path of the missing plane.

Moruya Aero Club chief pilot Sheldon Jones said both men, in their 60s, had set off from Moruya Airport at 11.30am for a flying assessment. He said the Mossy Point man who was being assessed was a former retailer who had retired.

“Everybody can’t believe it. The weather was good, it’s surprised everyone. They are both well known,” he said.

Witnesses said they saw the plane “fall from the sky”, the Life Saver Helicopter spokesman said.

The ultralight plane is believed to be a two-person Morgan Sierra “kit” plane that is registered under Recreation Aviation Australia.



a Morgan Aircraft Works Cheetah Sierra ultralight plane, believed to be similar to the one that crashed near Batemans Bay.

A source said initial reports were that two people were dead but police have only confirmed the death of the man recovered

Extracted from:- <http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/nsw/flying-instructor-graham-white-is-believed-to-be-one-of-the-men-killed-in-plane-crash-off-nsws-south-coast/story-fni0cx12-1226979790275>