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**Chadrad Communications, Inc.**  
226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337  
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601  
E-mail: [kcsr@chadrad.com](mailto:kcsr@chadrad.com)

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**(S.D.)-One Man Suffers Minor Injuries In Plane Crash Near Spearfish**



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 09/27/2012 10:08 AM

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) - The Federal Aviation Administration is investigating a crash landing near a private airstrip west of Spearfish that left one man with minor injuries.

The Lawrence County Sheriff's Office says 62-year-old John Widdoss of Spearfish and his passenger, Justin Bierschwale of Texas, were forced to land the Cessna 175 at about 6 p.m. Tuesday. Its front landing gear was torn from the plane causing the plane to skid to a stop in a hay field.

Widdoss, who suffered minor injuries, and Bierschwale were able to get out of the plane before it started on fire. The fire destroyed the plane and sparked a two-acre grass fire. Emergency crews were able to put the fire out.