



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Noreen Price
Aviation Accident Investigator
Alaska Regional Office

Date: July 31, 2018
Persons Contacted: Connie Kirchner
NTSB Accident Number: ANC18FA055 N9878R Regal Air

Narrative: Ms. Kirchner witnessed the accident airplane maneuvering on Willow Lake before the accident on July 18, 2018. She was interviewed by telephone. This is a summary of her statements.

Ms. Kirchner has a cabin on the southeast corner of Willow Lake, at [REDACTED]. She and her sister were cleaning the up the lot when she heard the Beaver taxiing around. They were cautious whenever heard heavy type airplane taking off because of the Willow Air accident that happened there years ago. The airplane attempted a takeoff at the south end of lake. "It looked heavy." Then it taxied north and circled the lake twice. Then took off and seemed to stay at 20-30 ft. "He looked really heavy," She knew that airplane was heavy as soon as she saw it. When it finally took off, she yelled out loud "pull up, pull up!" because he seemed too low to get over the trees. She took one picture after takeoff at the southeast end of the lake. She stated that photograph looks like the airplane was over the trees, but it definitely was not over the trees on the east side. About 15 seconds later, she heard a loud bang and then no more noise. Then she saw the helicopter and heard sirens.

Ms. Kirchner stated that about 10-11 years ago, a heavy Willow Air Beaver crashed at the lake and the lake neighbors had many problems with that company. An agreement went into effect that airplane depart to the south.



Figure 1. Photograph taken by Connie Kirchner after the accident airplane took off.