

August 16, 2016

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David:

Per your request, the following is my recollection of the incident involving N50437 on Aug 14, 2016. The flight started at KOEO around 11:30am on August 14. Current weather was clear below 12,000 feet and winds from 330 degrees at 4kts. At the time of departure, we had approximately 16 gallons of fuel on board.

I believe the total flight time between leaving KOEO and the crash site was approximately 45 minutes. We taxied to runway 04, which is the grass runway at KOEO. After executing 3 takeoff and landings, we proceeded to Surfside seaplane base (MN24 or 8Y4).

We landed on runway 22, which is the grass strip at Surfside. We departed surfside at approximately 2:30pm on runway 04. We taxied to the end of 04 and performed our run-up. All appeared ok for flight. Everything seemed normal as we accelerated down the runway.

As we approached the point of no return, it felt like we were lifting off. At that time, I made the decision not to abort the takeoff, but rather to continue. It felt like the plane's wheels brushed the bushes at the departure end of the runway as we flew over them. We were unable to maintain a positive rate of climb and landed in a marshy area past the runway threshold.

The plane slowed as we contacted the reeds. When the wheels touched the ground the plane quickly flipped over with us coming to rest upside down. We opened the door, released our belts and exited the plane. We then waited for help to arrive.

Jeffrey J. Moryn
[REDACTED]