

C172 N494JB

03/28/2019

KDWH

Elizabeth Largent (left seat, PIC), Pedro Lovo (right seat)

At about 15:30 Thursday, Pedro and I had planned to fly to KAUS for the afternoon. We received taxi instructions to go to 17L via Juliet and Kilo. Before starting our taxi, I tested my breaks and they were normal. Pedro did not check his, as he was not going to be acting as PIC. Turning from Mike onto Juliet, I applied left rudder to turn. The airplane kept going straight forward, which was a ditch. I added in the left break to help the turn, but the airplane did not respond. Instead, I felt no pressure on the breaks and the airplane started to veer off. I took out the power and applied both breaks but the strong tail wind kept us moving pretty fast. Pedro tried his breaks and there was no response. I steered the plane to the right to try and go to November (away from the sea lane and movement areas)...but the right tire fell into the ditch and caused our plane to end up in the grass. I held the nose up so the prop would not be damaged, Pedro cut the mixture, and we contacted ground for assistance. The landing gear and the horizontal stabilizer were damaged by this. Previously, the breaks were squawked weak, but I had flown the airplane just the day before and everything worked normally.