

Statement from Philip C. Owens

On Saturday June 22, 2019 I departed runway 04 for a 25 minute tour of Acadia National Park. I initially made a left crosswind, the downwind, then departed toward the Island. At this time all engine controls and the aircraft were normal. Normal Flight Flying around Bar Harbor, ~~circling~~ & flying around Northeast Harbor and started making my way up Somes Sound. At about 15 minutes into the flight (toward the end of Somes Sound) there was a loud crack/bang from the front of the aircraft. At this point I am around 1,900 feet. After the crack/bang there was a loud and steady noise that sounded similar to a helicopter. This went on for approximately 10 seconds, followed by the propeller

stopping. After this I immediately pitched down slightly to keep some airspeed, and while turning right made a radio call saying something to the effect of "Bar Harbor Traffic, Waco going down near Somes Sound, engine failure."

After this I informed the passengers of the situation, and had by this point decided on the marshland as my landing spot. I slipped the aircraft slightly to bleed some airspeed off and as I approached the beginning of the swampland resumed normal (non-slip) flight and identified exactly where I'd put it down at. Approximately 200 feet before touchdown, as I was slowing the aircraft down close to stall speed, I hit a tree with the left wingtip. Shortly after this I began my flare, touching down with the tailwheel first, then shortly

after the mains touchdowned, and almost immediately after the aircraft flipped over on it's top. Myself and both passengers unbuckled our seatbelts and sat on the wing for a minute and confirmed we were all okay. After this I crawled back into the pilot section and turned off all electronics and switches. The female passenger (Kristen) called 911 and on speaker we explained what happened and that there were no major injuries besides soreness and headaches. About 20 minutes later a helicopter flew over a couple times. Approximately 10 minutes later some weather moved in so we moved to the shoreline of the marsh to avoid being in standing water. Approximately 30 minutes after this the ground crew came and we hiked out toward MBI

High School toward awaiting Ambulances. Went to
the hospital to get checked out.

 — 06/24/2019

Philip C. Owens