



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Eleazar Nepomuceno
Air Safety Investigator
General Aviation Accident Division

Date: 06/18/2020
Person Contacted: Kenneth Theis (pilot)
NTSB Accident Number: WPR20CA164

Narrative:

The following is a synopsis of the information provided by the pilot in a telephone conversation on this date:

The pilot reported that during a soft field takeoff from a grassy airstrip with 20° of flaps, about a third down the runway, the left main landing wheel went over a muddy spot and mud was slung onto the windscreen just as he pitched the nose up to initiate a climb. The airplane immediately "veered" left. He corrected with full right aileron input, but the airplane continued left and struck a fence and a tree. The airplane impacted the soft field terrain and came to rest in a nosed down position. The pilot could not recall if the airplane was airborne after the airplane veered left. The wings and the engine mounts were substantially damaged.

The pilot reported that there were no preimpact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.