



INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Maja Smith
Aviation Accident Investigator
Western Pacific Region

Interview Date: July 7, 2020
Person Contacted: Gregg Rawlings
NTSB Accident Number: WPR20LA203

Narrative:

- The witness reported he was located on the Northside of the canyon, east of where the accident occurred when he observed the airplane in the distance. As the airplane approached the canyon from the southeast to south direction headed in a northwest direction, it became apparent that the airplane was too low in altitude to get over the pass/clear the saddle to depart the canyon.
- The witness observed the airplane in the tight, right, banking turn in the canyon. After he came out of the 180ish degree turn, the airplane leveled off, followed by the left wing dip, level off, followed by the right wing dip which progressively got worst. The airplane entered a clockwise, corkscrew spin, executing 1 ½ - 2 turns before it got lost from the line of sight. The witness reported that the airplane was in a vertical, nose-down position.
- The witness responded to the accident site and observed that the airplane came to rest with the nose pointing in the S - SE direction.
- The engine (airplane) was producing the same, constant sound up until the moment it started to vertically descend when the noise started to oscillate.