



RECORD OF PHONE CONVERSATION

Paul K. Rho
Air Safety Investigator
Western Pacific Region

Date: August 11, 2022
Person Contacted: Steven Cantine (Pilot)
NTSB Accident Number: WPR22LA288

Narrative:

The following is a synopsis of the information provided by the pilot, Mr. Steven Cantine, on August 11, 2022 in a telephone conversation.

The pilot of the tailwheel equipped airplane, stated that he and a check pilot were conducting a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 public use instructional flight. They conducted several low passes over the unimproved strip prior to landing. The wind was from the east during the landing roll, they experienced a little bump. After landing they determined the length of the runway was about 500 ft in length; however, the approach end and the departure end were soft and wet, leaving about 450 ft of useable runway. Prior to departure, he identified an abort point, which was about mid field. The check pilot noted that, at the time of departure the temperature was about 58° F. During the takeoff roll, the tail of the airplane lifted, and the airplane entered into ground effect. Unfortunately, the airplane did not get out of the ground effect and the bush wheel came in contact with the top of willow trees/brush that are about 3'-6' tall. He aborted the takeoff and landed the airplane about 50 yards beyond the strip. They relocated the airplane back to the strip and noted that the right elevator was damaged. The pilot did not recall when the elevator contacted the tree.

According to the pilot there were no preimpact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airframe or engine that would have precluded normal operation.