

Kristyn Blocher
Air Safety Investigator
Western Pacific Region

Date: 06/13/2023

Subject: WPR23FA225

Contact: Marco Mehlitz, passenger, [REDACTED]

Per telephone conversation with Mr. Mehlitz:

He and the pilot had been flying to various places around the Pacific Northwest together for several days. They arrived to McCall Municipal Airport (KMYL), McCall, Idaho, on June 11, 2023 and stayed overnight. They walked back to the airport early on the morning of June 12, 2023, because they wanted to avoid weather that was expected later in the day. They intended to make a short flight to Indian Creek, Idaho. The pilot conducted a preflight inspection of the airplane and pre-take off checks. During taxi to the runway, the pilot commented on the slight tailwind for the departure runway, and that it may result in a slightly longer take off roll. During takeoff, while rotating, the pilot said, "we have a power problem". He wanted to turn around to return to the runway but couldn't gain enough altitude before hitting the trees. Marco woke up when first responders were working to extract them from the airplane.