



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Tealeye Cornejo
Air Safety Investigator (Field)
Western Pacific Region

Date: January 2020

Person Contacted: L. Pete Kelley Phone: [REDACTED] email: [REDACTED]

NTSB Accident Number: WPR20CA080

Narrative:

According to Inspector Kelley, the rudder was damaged during the ground loop.

The airplane was still in Phase 1 of its certification. The tailwheel had failed twice before. The pilot believed he had addressed the issued and fixed the problem by removing links from the tailwheel chain to make it shorter thereby reducing the slack. The FAA noted that the end of one of the springs where the tailwheel chain connected was slightly more open than the other one but was not defective. He also reviewed the airplane logbooks and did not see any entries that identified a defective or overloaded spring.

Inspector Kelley further reported that the owner is also the mechanic.