

Eleazar Nepomuceno
Aviation Accident Investigator
Office of Aviation Safety - WPR

Date: April 13, 2022

Subject: WPR22FA148

Contact: Nathan Hardin, Flight instructor at Rangely Airport

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

A local flight instructor at Rangely Airport reported that the pilot told him that the airplane was struggling to clear 8,000 ft msl during their previous flight legs from Alton, Wyoming. The pilot then asked the instructor for obstacles to avoid when the pilot and owner fly through New Mexico. The instructor stated that if he was planning the flight to KAEG, he would fly directly to Canyonlands Regional Airport (KCNV), Moab, Utah, then to Cortez Municipal Airport (KCEZ), Cortez, Colorado and/or Four Corners Regional Airport (KFMN), Farmington, New Mexico, and then continue to Double Eagle II Airport (KAEG) in Albuquerque, New Mexico by using Highway 505 as a landmark guide. He added that once the airplane reaches Nageezi, NM, he would navigate to the southeast and follow V187 directly to KAEG.

He noted that the pilot was receptive to his warning of staying away from mountain passes due to mechanical turbulence and to seek lower terrain. He further noted that the pilot was using an iPad with the Foreflight application for navigation.