



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Joshua D. Cawthra
Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
Western Pacific Region

Date: 9/8/2021
Person Contacted: Lynden Bechtel (Pilot)
NTSB Accident Number: WPR21LA333

Narrative:

During a telephone conversation, Mr. Bechtel stated that he had departed from a staging area about 5 minutes prior to the accident. While spraying the middle of a field, he observed a "leave tree" and calculated that he could conduct another pass before having to climb to avoid the tree. During his second pass, he saw a smaller tree adjacent to the "leave tree" that he was unable to avoid. Mr. Bechtel said that the main rotor blades struck the tree and the helicopter began to spin to the left followed by it impacting terrain.