



Aviation Investigation Preliminary Report

Location:	Greenville, NC	Accident Number:	ERA23LA218
Date & Time:	May 5, 2023, 09:00 Local	Registration:	N180LR
Aircraft:	Piper PA-28-180	Injuries:	2 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

On May 5, 2023, at 0900 eastern daylight time, a Piper PA-28-180 airplane, N180LR, was substantially damaged when it was involved in an accident near Greenville, North Carolina. The private pilot and the passenger were seriously injured. The airplane was operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 personal flight.

The pilot reported that he conducted a thorough preflight examination of the airplane and found nothing abnormal. Both wing fuel tanks were full, and the engine started and ran normally during all run-up checks. He then departed the Piedmont Triad International Airport (GSO), Greensboro, North Carolina, for the Pitt-Greenville Airport (PGV), Greenville, North Carolina, about 0800.

The pilot said that when they were about 10 miles from PGV at an altitude of about 4,000 ft mean sea level (msl), he noticed a gradual loss in engine RPM. He tried to add power with the throttle, but there was no response. The pilot also applied carburetor heat, but there was no discernable difference in engine RPM. The engine continued to rapidly lose RPM before it finally stopped producing all power. The pilot trimmed the airplane for best glide speed and tried to reach the airport, however, he ended up landing about a ¼-mile short of the runway in a swamp.

Once the airplane is recovered, a follow up examination of the airframe and engine will be conducted.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N180LR
Model/Series:	PA-28-180	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:			
Operator:	REGISTRATION PENDING	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Designator Code:			

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	VMC	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KPGV,25 ft msl	Observation Time:	09:05 Local
Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	15°C /11°C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	/ ,
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility:	10 miles
Altimeter Setting:	30.22 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Departure Point:	Greensboro, NC (GSO)	Destination:	Greenville, NC (PGV)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Unknown
Passenger Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:		Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	35.630829,-77.398041

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Read, Leah
Additional Participating Persons:	Lynda Falcon; FAA/FSDO; Greensboro, NC
Investigation Class:	Class 3
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.