



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

<b>Location:</b>	Thompson Falls, MT	<b>Accident Number:</b>	WPR20LA235
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	07/21/2020, 0558 PDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N208MP
<b>Aircraft:</b>	MCDONNELL DOUGLAS 600	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 133: Rotorcraft Ext. Load		

On July 21, 2020, at 0558 Pacific daylight time, a McDonnell Douglas 600N helicopter, N208MP, was substantially damaged when it was involved in an accident near Thompson Falls, Montana. The pilot was not injured. The helicopter was operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 133 rotorcraft external load operation.

The pilot stated that, as he was on an approach to a landing zone, he lowered the collective to start a vertical descent to land. At that time, the engine and rotor rpm suddenly decreased, the helicopter yawed to the left and started to settle. As the helicopter was approaching the ground fast, the pilot increased the collective to use the remaining rpm to cushion the landing. The helicopter impacted the ground and the pilot rolled the throttle to idle, but noticed that engine speed and rpm were below the normal idle parameters. When he rolled the throttle to off, he heard a grinding, "metal-to-metal" noise. The helicopter was secured for further examination.

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	MCDONNELL DOUGLAS	<b>Registration:</b>	N208MP
<b>Model/Series:</b>	600 N	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Helicopter
<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No		
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	Rotorcraft External Load (133)

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:

Condition of Light:

Observation Facility, Elevation:

Observation Time:

Distance from Accident Site:

Temperature/Dew Point:

Lowest Cloud Condition:

Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction: / ,

Lowest Ceiling:

Visibility:

Altimeter Setting:

Type of Flight Plan Filed:

Departure Point:

Destination:

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries: 1 None

Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Passenger Injuries: N/A

Aircraft Fire: None

Ground Injuries: N/A

Aircraft Explosion: None

Total Injuries: 1 None

Latitude, Longitude:

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Maja Smith

Additional Participating Persons:

Note: The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.