



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Renton, Washington	Accident Number:	GAA18CA336
Date & Time:	June 10, 2018, 14:30 Local	Registration:	N352AM
Aircraft:	AVIAT AIRCRAFT INC A 1	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot of the float-equipped airplane reported that, during takeoff from a tower-controlled waterway in gusting crosswind conditions, he felt the wind direction shift as the airplane started to lift off. He added that a strong wind gust then lifted the left wing, and the right wing dipped and impacted the water. He reduced power and shut the engine off. The impact had damaged the float connecting rod. The airplane came to rest upright on both floats, but the left float then separated from the fuselage, and the airplane sank.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing lift strut.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

The automated weather observation system about 1 nautical mile from the accident site reported that, about the time of the accident, the wind was from 170° at 7 knots with thunderstorms in the vicinity. According to the pilot, the tower had reported the possibility of gusts up to 20 knots. The pilot was departing the waterway to the east/southeast.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's inadequate crosswind correction, which resulted in the right wing impacting the water's surface.

Findings

Aircraft	Crosswind correction - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	Crosswind - Effect on operation
Environmental issues	Gusts - Effect on operation
Environmental issues	Choppy surface - Effect on equipment

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Other weather encounter
Takeoff	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Takeoff	Dragged wing/rotor/float/other
Takeoff	Part(s) separation from AC

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	77,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	5-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	July 7, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 3, 2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 3103 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1088 hours (Total, this make and model), 9 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	AVIAT AIRCRAFT INC	Registration:	N352AM
Model/Series:	A 1 B	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2003	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	2252
Landing Gear Type:	Float	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1120 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-360 SERIES
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	180 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KRNT, 29 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	21:35 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	163°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 4400 ft AGL	Visibility	6 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 9000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / Unknown
Wind Direction:	170°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / Moderate
Altimeter Setting:	30.04 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	16°C / 7°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	In the vicinity - Thunderstorm -		
Departure Point:	Renton, WA (W36)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	Victoria	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	14:36 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class D

Airport Information

Airport:	WILL ROGERS WILEY POST MEMORIA W36	Runway Surface Type:	Water
Airport Elevation:	14 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Water-choppy
Runway Used:	12	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5000 ft / 200 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	47.505279,-122.219444(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Swenson, Eric
Additional Participating Persons:	Roy Dunn; FAA; Seattle, WA
Original Publish Date:	November 5, 2018
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=97451

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