



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Nordman, Idaho	Accident Number:	GAA16CA524
Date & Time:	September 9, 2016, 13:00 Local	Registration:	N567AK
Aircraft:	VAN HOOMISSEN GERALD J MURPHY ELITE	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Nose over/nose down	Injuries:	2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot of the amphibious float-equipped airplane reported that during the touchdown to the north on choppy lake waters the airplane nosed over. The pilot further reported that when he and the passenger egressed from the cockpit and climbed onto the floats he noticed that the wind was 5-7 miles per hour (mph) from the south.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage.

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

The pilot reported as a safety recommendation that the pilot should get a "better read of the wind direction" prior to landing.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The floatplane pilot's improper landing flare during landing on choppy water with a tailwind, which resulted in a nose-over. Contributing to the accident was the pilot's failure to determine the wind direction before landing.

Findings

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Aircraft	Landing flare - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	Tailwind - Awareness of condition
Environmental issues	Choppy surface - Effect on operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Nose over/nose down (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	65, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	August 18, 2015
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	July 23, 2015
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 1027 hours (Total, all aircraft), 63 hours (Total, this make and model), 929 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Passenger Information

Certificate:		Age:	Male
Airplane Rating(s):		Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):		Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:		Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:			

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	VAN HOOMISSEN GERALD J	Registration:	N567AK
Model/Series:	MURPHY ELITE NO SERIES	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2002	Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	612E
Landing Gear Type:	Amphibian	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 7, 2015 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	186.7 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, aided in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-360-A2A
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:	KSZT, 2127 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	21 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	19:55 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	143°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	130°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.35 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	17°C / 7°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	DEER PARK, WA (DEW)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Nordman, ID	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	12:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	48.576389,-116.871948(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Benhoff, Kathryn
Additional Participating Persons:	Terrence Brewer; FAA; Spokane, WA
Original Publish Date:	December 15, 2016
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=94155

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