



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Lander, Wyoming	Accident Number:	WPR23LA108
Date & Time:	February 7, 2023, 06:45 Local	Registration:	N4045R
Aircraft:	Maule M-7-260C	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Runway excursion	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot in the tailwheel equipped airplane reported that, during landing roll the airplane veered to the right. He applied left rudder and left brake, however, the airplane continued to veer to the right. The pilot then decided to abort the landing and applied full engine power. The airplane subsequently impacted a snowbank and came to rest inverted. The vertical stabilizer, rudder, and right-wing struts sustained substantial damage. The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

The pilot's failure to maintain directional control during landing.

Findings

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	Sloped/uneven terrain - Effect on operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	24, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	February 24, 2021
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	January 5, 2022
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 913 hours (Total, all aircraft), 78 hours (Total, this make and model), 806 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 60 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0 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:	
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:		Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:			

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Maule	Registration:	N4045R
Model/Series:	M-7-260C	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1998	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	30001C
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	January 18, 2023 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	25 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1280 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540-V4A5
Registered Owner:	LET ER BUCK LIVESTOCK LLC	Rated Power:	260 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:	KLND, 5589 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	06:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	320°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	3013 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-8°C / -14°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Hyattville, WY (none)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Lander, WY (KLND)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	05:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	Hunt Field LND	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	5589 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry;Snow
Runway Used:	04	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5000 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Go around;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:		Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	42.82,-108.73

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Blocher, Kristyn
Additional Participating Persons:	Bruce Hanson; Federal Aviation Administration; Casper, WY Chad Glaza; Federal Aviation Administration; Casper, WY
Original Publish Date:	March 23, 2023
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=106709

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The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, “accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person” (Title 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB’s statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 *United States Code* section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 *United States Code* section 1154(b) is available [here](#).