



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Winchester, Texas Accident Number: CEN24LA124

Date & Time: February 25, 2024, 14:15 Local Registration: N360MD

Aircraft: Searey Classic Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control in flight **Injuries:** 1 Minor

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot reported that he aborted the first landing after the airplane bounced twice on the lake. During the second approach for landing, the airplane rolled right, and the pilot tried to counter the right roll with left aileron control input. The airplane's nose then quickly dropped. The pilot increased engine power and applied control inputs to recover the airplane, which decreased the nose down pitch and right roll, but there was not enough altitude to prevent the airplane from impacting the lake. The airplane impacted the lake and nosed over coming to rest inverted. The airplane sustained substantial damage to wing and fuselage. The pilot reported that there was no preaccident mechanical malfunctions or failures of 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 attain/maintain airplane control during a landing approach that resulted in an uncontrolled descent and an impact with the lake.

Findings

Personnel issues

Aircraft control - Pilot

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Approach	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)	
Uncontrolled descent	Attempted remediation/recovery	
Uncontrolled descent	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)	

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	64,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:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	July 19, 2023
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	April 1, 2022
Flight Time:	509 hours (Total, all aircraft), 28 hours (Total, this make and model), 455 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 67 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 13 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Searey	Registration:	N360MD
Model/Series:	Classic	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2008	Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	FLORMAN-002
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tailwheel; Amphibian	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	November 8, 2023 Condition	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1220 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1618.9 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotax
ELT:	C126 installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	912ULS
Registered Owner:	ANDIAMO AVIATION LLC	Rated Power:	100 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:	T74,600 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	9 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	14:35 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	210°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	12 knots / 22 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	180°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.94 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	27°C / 16°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Georgetown, TX (07TS)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Georgetown, TX (07TS)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	14:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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Airport Information

Airport:	Lake Granger None	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:	505 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Water-choppy
Runway Used:		IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:		Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	30,-97(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Gallo, Mitchell
Additional Participating Persons:	Benjamin Huffman; Federal Aviation Administration, San Antonio Flight Standards District Office; San Antonio, TX
Original Publish Date:	April 12, 2024
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=193851

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

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.

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