

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Mack, Colorado Accident Number: CEN20CA116

Date & Time: March 7, 2020, 11:00 Local Registration: N78BK

Aircraft: Cub Crafters CC11-160 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Nose over/nose down **Injuries:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

According to the pilot, he was conducting an off-airport landing to a river sandbar when he noticed wires in his approach path. He pushed forward on the stick to lower the nose and avoid the wires; however, the airplane touched down in the river just short of the sand bar and nosed over. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the right wing strut. The pilot reported that the accident could have been avoided if he had reconnoitered the area for obstacles before beginning the approach. The pilot added 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 reconnoiter the approach area in preparation for an off-airport landing on a sandbar, which necessitated an evasive maneuver to avoid wires and resulted in an unintentional landing in the river short of the sandbar and a subsequent nose-over.

Findings

Personnel issues	Decision making/judgment - Pilot
Personnel issues	Flight planning/navigation - Pilot
Environmental issues	Soft surface - Effect on operation

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Approach Abrupt maneuver

Landing Off-field or emergency landing

Landing-flare/touchdown Nose over/nose down (Defining event)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	36,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 21, 2019
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	February 24, 2019
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 3113 hours (Total, all aircraft), 72 hours (Total, this make and model), 3046 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 73 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 21 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cub Crafters	Registration:	N78BK
Model/Series:	CC11-160 100	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2012	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental light sport (Special)	Serial Number:	CC11-00222
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	July 13, 2019 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1320 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	305 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	CUB CRAFTERS
ELT:	C126 installed, activated, aided in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	CC340
Registered Owner:	Diamond M Aero Llc	Rated Power:	180 Horsepower
Operator:	Diamond M Aero Llc	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KGJT,4839 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	21 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	17:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	112°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	130°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	12°C / -8°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Moab, UT (UT97)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Mack, CO	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	07:15 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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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:	39.264999,-108.950279(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hicks, Michael
Additional Participating Persons:	Eric McRae ; FAA; Salt Lake, UT
Original Publish Date:	June 29, 2020
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=101055

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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.

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