



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Glendive, Montana	Accident Number:	WPR20CA166
Date & Time:	June 3, 2020, 15:00 Local	Registration:	N8QT
Aircraft:	Aviat A 1	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that the airplane was configured for landing on runway 30, and he intended to perform a three-point landing. He estimated that the wind was from 260° at 30 kts. When the airplane was about 1 ft above the runway surface, it encountered a microburst with a strong gust of wind which lifted the left wing. The pilot was unable to counteract the sudden attitude shift and the right wing dug on the ground. The pilot attempted to abort the landing as the left wing then impacted the ground, and the airplane became airborne shortly thereafter. The pilot remained in the airport traffic pattern and landed uneventfully. The left aileron was partially torn off as a result of the accident sequence. The pilot reported that there were no preimpact 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 airplane control during landing in gusting wind condition which resulted in a collision with terrain.

Findings

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	Gusts - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	71, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
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:	BasicMed	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 25, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	September 10, 2019
Flight Time:	477 hours (Total, all aircraft), 39 hours (Total, this make and model), 428 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 45 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 16 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Aviat	Registration:	N8QT
Model/Series:	A 1 Undesignat	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1997	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	1378
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 4, 2019 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	34 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	996 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	C91 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-360-A1D
Registered Owner:	On file	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:	KGDV	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	20:56 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	14 knots / 20 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	280°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.88 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	25°C / 6°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Williston, ND (XWA)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Glendive, MT (GDV)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	14:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	Dawson Community GDV	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	2458 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	30	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5704 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	47.13861,-104.80722(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Keliher, Zoe
Additional Participating Persons:	Bill Thomas; Federal Aviation Administration; Helena, MT
Original Publish Date:	February 2, 2021
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=101384

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