



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	PESHTIGO, Wisconsin	Accident Number:	CHI98LA207
Date & Time:	June 17, 1998, 14:45 Local	Registration:	N80026
Aircraft:	Lake LA4-200	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

In a phone conversation, the pilot reported that he looked over the area before he landed and did not see anything in the water and did not see anything off the right side. He reported that the right wing caught the water. He reported, 'I think it was the glassy water...and I thought I was higher than I was.' He reported, '...the wing hit the water and the airplane ground looped on me.' The pilot reported that he had 19 hours in make and model aircraft.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the pilot misjudged the flare and inadvertently dragged the right sponson in the water. A factor was the pilot's lack of experience in the make and model aircraft.

Findings

Occurrence #1: DRAGGED WING, ROTOR, POD, FLOAT OR TAIL/SKID
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. (C) FLARE - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) WATER LOOP/SWERVE - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) LACK OF EXPERIENCE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

On June 17, 1998, at 1445 central daylight time, a Lake LA4-200, N80026, was substantially damaged when the right wingtip struck the water during a crosswind water landing. The private pilot and one passenger were not injured. The 14 CFR Part 91 flight had departed from Marinette, Wisconsin, and was making a water landing on the Peshtigo River, near Peshtigo, Wisconsin. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed and no flight plan was filed.

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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	44, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	March 26, 1997
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	347 hours (Total, all aircraft), 19 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Lake	Registration:	N80026
Model/Series:	LA4-200 LA4-200	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	1007
Landing Gear Type:	Amphibian	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 1, 1998 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2690 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	39 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	700 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360-A1B
Registered Owner:	DAVE A. OLSEN	Rated Power:	200 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	MNM ,625 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	10 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	14:35 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	30°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 9000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	11 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	130°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	23°C / 12°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	MENOMINEE , WI (MNM)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	Water
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

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:	45.050567,-87.739234(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Silliman, Jim
Additional Participating Persons:	DUANE HAHN; MILWAUKEE , WI
Original Publish Date:	February 16, 2001
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=10921

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