



Aviation Investigation Preliminary Report

Location:	Petersville, AK	Accident Number:	ANC24LA064
Date & Time:	July 12, 2024, 17:00 Local	Registration:	N535KT
Aircraft:	DEHAVILLAND DHC-2T	Injuries:	9 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air taxi & commuter - Scheduled - Sightseeing		

On July 12, 2024, about 1700 Alaska daylight time, a turbine-powered DeHavilland DHC-2T (Beaver) airplane, N535KT sustained substantial damage when it was involved in an accident near Petersville, Alaska. The pilot and 8 passengers were not injured. The airplane was operated by the pilot as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 135 air tour flight.

The accident airplane, owned by Rust Properties LLC and operated by K2 Aviation, was conducting an air tour flight within the Denali National Park and Preserve. The airplane departed from the Talkeetna Airport (TKA), about 1614, for a flight over the Tokositna Glacier before returning to TKA. The pilot reported that, while operating over the upper elevations of the Tokositna Glacier, he initially noticed a propeller rpm fluctuation. In an attempt to correct the rpm fluctuation, he moved the propeller pitch control, but it had no effect on the fluctuating propeller pitch. As the pilot started an emergency descent, the propeller went into a near feathered position, but the engine continued to produce power with a high engine torque indication. He reported that he was unable to move the propeller out of the near feathered position, and that he was unable to maintain altitude. The pilot then selected an area of hilly, alder tree-covered terrain as a forced landing site, resulting in substantial damage to the fuselage and wings.

The airplane was equipped with a Pratt and Whitney PT6A-60A series turbine engine, and a post-accident examination is pending.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	DEHAVILLAND	Registration:	N535KT
Model/Series:	DHC-2T	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:			
Operator:	K2 Aviation	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand air taxi (135)
Operator Designator Code:			

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	VMC	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PATK,356 ft msl	Observation Time:	16:53 Local
Distance from Accident Site:	31 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	17°C /8°C
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	3 knots / None, 280°
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 5000 ft AGL	Visibility:	10 miles
Altimeter Setting:	29.84 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	CVFR
Departure Point:	Talkeetna, AK (TKA)	Destination:	Talkeetna, AK (TKA)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	8 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:		Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	9 None	Latitude, Longitude:	62.725683,-150.7958

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Ward, Mark
Additional Participating Persons:	Art Racicot; FAA; Anchorage, AK
Investigation Class:	Class 3
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.