



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	WILLCOX, Arizona	<b>Accident Number:</b>	LAX85LA348
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	August 15, 1985, 07:00 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N4974Q
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CESSNA A188B	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 137: Agricultural		

## Analysis

ON AUGUST 15, 1985, A CESSNA 180 LOST ENG PWR DUE TO FUEL EXHAUSTION AND COLLIDED WITH THE GROUND DURING AN AERIAL APPLICAION MANEUVER. THE ACFT SUSTAINED SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE BUT THE PILOT WAS NOT INJURED. THE PLT STATED THAT HE SHOULD HAVE CHECKED THE FUEL MORE CLOSELY.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

### Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL  
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - AERIAL APPLICATION

#### Findings

1. (F) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
2. (C) FUEL CONSUMPTION CALCULATIONS - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

#### Findings

3. TERRAIN CONDITION - CROP
4. LIGHT CONDITION - DAYLIGHT

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial; Flight instructor	<b>Age:</b>	45, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	April 29, 1985
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	Yes	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	5000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2500 hours (Total, this make and model), 4800 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 150 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 75 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	CESSNA	<b>Registration:</b>	N4974Q
<b>Model/Series:</b>	A188B A188B	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	188027081
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	1
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	Unknown	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	3300 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	1448 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONTINENTAL
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	IO 520D
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	MARVIN D MOTES	<b>Rated Power:</b>	300 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>	COCHISE AIRCRAFT	<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	TUS ,2630 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	48 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	06:53 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	252°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	50 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	11 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	140°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	21°C / 6°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	WILLCOX , AZ (P33 )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>		<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	06:30 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	0 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	0 ft / 0 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	32.429214,-109.879356(est)

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Rich, Jeff

**Additional Participating Persons:** BRIAN CALENDINE; SCOTTSDALE , AZ

**Original Publish Date:**

**Last Revision Date:**

**Investigation Class:** [Class](#)

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=24799>

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