



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

|                                |                                      |                         |             |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Location:</b>               | GUSTAVIS, Alaska                     | <b>Accident Number:</b> | SEA85LA150  |
| <b>Date &amp; Time:</b>        | June 24, 1985, 18:30 Local           | <b>Registration:</b>    | N64395      |
| <b>Aircraft:</b>               | de Havilland DHC-2                   | <b>Aircraft Damage:</b> | Substantial |
| <b>Defining Event:</b>         |                                      | <b>Injuries:</b>        | 1 None      |
| <b>Flight Conducted Under:</b> | Part 91: General aviation - Personal |                         |             |

## Analysis

WHILE TAXIING THE FLOAT PLANE IN A GUSTY X-WIND, THE WIND & WATER CURRENT DRIFTED THE ACFT TOWARD A PARKED BOAT. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE LEFT WING TIP STRUCK THE BOAT & WAS DAMAGED. BUT THERE WAS NO DAMAGE TO THE BOAT.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

### Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: TAXI - TO TAKEOFF

#### Findings

1. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER,ROUGH
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - UNFAVORABLE WIND
3. (C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) OBJECT - VEHICLE
5. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

|                                  |  |  |               |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---------------|
| <b>Certificate:</b>              | Commercial                             | <b>Age:</b>                              | 34, Male      |
| <b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>       | Single-engine land; Single-engine sea  | <b>Seat Occupied:</b>                    | Left          |
| <b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b> | None                                   | <b>Restraint Used:</b>                   |               |
| <b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>     | None                                   | <b>Second Pilot Present:</b>             | No            |
| <b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>     | None                                   | <b>Toxicology Performed:</b>             | No            |
| <b>Medical Certification:</b>    | Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim. | <b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>            | June 24, 1985 |
| <b>Occupational Pilot:</b>       | Yes                                    | <b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b> |               |
| <b>Flight Time:</b>              |  |  |               |

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

|                                      |               |                                       |                          |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Aircraft Make:</b>                | de Havilland  | <b>Registration:</b>                  | N64395                   |
| <b>Model/Series:</b>                 | DHC-2 DHC-2   | <b>Aircraft Category:</b>             | Airplane                 |
| <b>Year of Manufacture:</b>          |               | <b>Amateur Built:</b>                 |                          |
| <b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>    | Normal        | <b>Serial Number:</b>                 | 809                      |
| <b>Landing Gear Type:</b>            | Tailwheel     | <b>Seats:</b>                         | 8                        |
| <b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b> | Unknown       | <b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>       | 5100 lbs                 |
| <b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>   |               | <b>Engines:</b>                       | 1 Reciprocating          |
| <b>Airframe Total Time:</b>          |               | <b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>           | P&W                      |
| <b>ELT:</b>                          |               | <b>Engine Model/Series:</b>           | R-985                    |
| <b>Registered Owner:</b>             | MICHAEL MILLS | <b>Rated Power:</b>                   | 450 Horsepower           |
| <b>Operator:</b>                     |               | <b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b> | On-demand air taxi (135) |
| <b>Operator Does Business As:</b>    | AIR CENTER    | <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> |                                  | <b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>         |         |
| <b>Observation Time:</b>                |                                  | <b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>        |         |
| <b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>          | Scattered / 800 ft AGL           | <b>Visibility</b>                           | 7 miles |
| <b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>                  | Broken / 2500 ft AGL             | <b>Visibility (RVR):</b>                    |         |
| <b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>                | 10 knots /                       | <b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>     | /       |
| <b>Wind Direction:</b>                  | 220°                             | <b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b> | /       |
| <b>Altimeter Setting:</b>               |                                  | <b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>               | 10°C    |
| <b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>   | No Obscuration; No Precipitation |   |         |
| <b>Departure Point:</b>                 |                                  | <b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>           | None    |
| <b>Destination:</b>                     | JUNEAU , AK (JNU)                | <b>Type of Clearance:</b>                   | None    |
| <b>Departure Time:</b>                  | 18:30 Local                      | <b>Type of Airspace:</b>                    | Class G |

## Airport Information

|                             |             |                                  |              |
|-----------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Airport:</b>             |             | <b>Runway Surface Type:</b>      | Water        |
| <b>Airport Elevation:</b>   | 0 ft msl    | <b>Runway Surface Condition:</b> | Water-choppy |
| <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> | 58.420986,-135.78099(est) |

## Administrative Information

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>     | Carrera, Candace  |
| <b>Additional Participating Persons:</b> | JOE SAPP; JUNEAU , AK   |
| <b>Original Publish Date:</b>            |   |
| <b>Last Revision Date:</b>               |   |
| <b>Investigation Class:</b>              | <a href="#">Class</a>   |
| <b>Note:</b>                             |   |
| <b>Investigation Docket:</b>             | <a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=40186">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=40186</a> |

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