



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

|                                |                                |                         |             |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Location:</b>               | GLASGOW, Montana               | <b>Accident Number:</b> | SEA91LA055  |
| <b>Date &amp; Time:</b>        | February 25, 1991, 16:10 Local | <b>Registration:</b>    | N7676A      |
| <b>Aircraft:</b>               | CESSNA 180                     | <b>Aircraft Damage:</b> | Substantial |
| <b>Defining Event:</b>         |                                | <b>Injuries:</b>        | 2 None      |
| <b>Flight Conducted Under:</b> | Part 91: General aviation      |                         |             |

## Analysis

AFTER DESCENT FROM 5500 FT. MSL CRUISE ALT TO 3200 MSL TRAFFIC PATTERN ALT, THE PILOT APPLIED THROTTLE ON BASE LEG AND THE ENGINE QUIT. HE WAS NOT ABLE TO REACH THE RUNWAY DUE TO STRONG WINDS AND ELECTED TO TURN DOWNWIND TO AVOID POWER LINES AND BUILDINGS. THE ACFT IMPACTED THE GROUND WHILE TRAVELING DOWNWIND, AND THE LANDING GEAR COLLAPSED. THE ENGINE RAN NORMALLY WHEN TESTED AFTER THE ACCIDENT.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE LOSS OF ENGINE POWER DUE TO CARBURETOR ICING. FACTORS RELATING TO THE ACCIDENT WERE THE STRONG WINDS, HIGH OBSTRUCTIONS IN THE AREA AND TAILWIND CONDITIONS FOR LANDING AT THE ONLY AVAILABLE AREA.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL  
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - BASE LEG/BASE TO FINAL

### Findings

1. (C) WEATHER CONDITION - CARBURETOR ICING CONDITIONS

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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: DESCENT

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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Findings

2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH OBSTRUCTION(S)
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - TAILWIND

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

|                                  |  |  |                 |
|----------------------------------|--|--|-----------------|
| <b>Certificate:</b>              | Private  | <b>Age:</b>                              | 40, Male        |
| <b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>       | Single-engine land   | <b>Seat Occupied:</b>                    | Unknown         |
| <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>     |  | <b>Toxicology Performed:</b>             | No              |
| <b>Medical Certification:</b>    | Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.   | <b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>            | August 16, 1989 |
| <b>Occupational Pilot:</b>       | UNK  | <b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b> |                 |
| <b>Flight Time:</b>              | 449 hours (Total, all aircraft), 244 hours (Total, this make and model), 19 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) |  |                 |

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

|                                      |                     |                                       |                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Aircraft Make:</b>                | CESSNA              | <b>Registration:</b>                  | N7676A          |
| <b>Model/Series:</b>                 | 180 180             | <b>Aircraft Category:</b>             | Airplane        |
| <b>Year of Manufacture:</b>          |                     | <b>Amateur Built:</b>                 |                 |
| <b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>    |                     | <b>Serial Number:</b>                 | 32573           |
| <b>Landing Gear Type:</b>            | Tailwheel           | <b>Seats:</b>                         | 4               |
| <b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b> | Unknown             | <b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>       | 2550 lbs        |
| <b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>   | 0 Hrs               | <b>Engines:</b>                       | 1 Reciprocating |
| <b>Airframe Total Time:</b>          |                     | <b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>           | CONTINENTAL     |
| <b>ELT:</b>                          |                     | <b>Engine Model/Series:</b>           | O-470-K         |
| <b>Registered Owner:</b>             | ROBERT D. FJELDHEIM | <b>Rated Power:</b>                   | 230 Horsepower  |
| <b>Operator:</b>                     | ROBERT D. FJELDHEIM | <b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b> | None            |
| <b>Operator Does Business As:</b>    |                     | <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>          | Clear                            | <b>Visibility</b>                           | 10 miles    |
| <b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>                  | Overcast / 2000 ft AGL           | <b>Visibility (RVR):</b>                    |             |
| <b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>                | 15 knots /                       | <b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>     | /           |
| <b>Wind Direction:</b>                  | 350°                             | <b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b> | /           |
| <b>Altimeter Setting:</b>               |                                  | <b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>               | -3°C / -7°C |
| <b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>   | No Obscuration; No Precipitation |   |             |
| <b>Departure Point:</b>                 | GREAT FALLS , MT (GTF)           | <b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>           | None        |
| <b>Destination:</b>                     | GLASGOW , MT (GGW)               | <b>Type of Clearance:</b>                   | None        |
| <b>Departure Time:</b>                  | 14:46 Local                      | <b>Type of Airspace:</b>                    |             |

## Airport Information

|                             |             |                                  |                 |
|-----------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Airport:</b>             | GLASGOW GGW | <b>Runway Surface Type:</b>      |                 |
| <b>Airport Elevation:</b>   |             | <b>Runway Surface Condition:</b> |                 |
| <b>Runway Used:</b>         | 0           | <b>IFR Approach:</b>             | None            |
| <b>Runway Length/Width:</b> |             | <b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>     | Traffic pattern |

## Wreckage and Impact Information

|                            |        |                             |                            |
|----------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Crew Injuries:</b>      | 1 None | <b>Aircraft Damage:</b>     | Substantial                |
| <b>Passenger Injuries:</b> | 1 None | <b>Aircraft Fire:</b>       | None                       |
| <b>Ground Injuries:</b>    | N/A    | <b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>  | None                       |
| <b>Total Injuries:</b>     | 2 None | <b>Latitude, Longitude:</b> | 48.099304,-106.840309(est) |

## Administrative Information

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|--|---|
| <b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>     | Mangum, Prentiss  |
| <b>Additional Participating Persons:</b> | ARMANDE DEMONTIGNY; HELENA , MT<br>PAUL KILMER; HELENA , MT   |
| <b>Original Publish Date:</b>            | March 31, 1993  |
| <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=41392">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=41392</a> |

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