



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: WEISER, Idaho Accident Number: SEA94LA169

Date & Time: July 6, 1994, 21:46 Local Registration: N4900T

Aircraft: CESSNA T-188C Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** 1 Minor

Flight Conducted Under: Part 137: Agricultural

### **Analysis**

THE PILOT PULLED UP EARLY WHILE ENGAGED IN AERIAL APPLICATION ACTIVITIES AT DUSK, STRIKING A POWER TRANSMISSION LINE WITH THE LEFT WING. THE AIRCRAFT CRASHED, SUSTAINING SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE.

## **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: CLEARANCE FROM POWERLINES WAS NOT MAINTAINED. FACTORS INCLUDE DUSK LIGHT CONDITIONS.

### **Findings**

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - AERIAL APPLICATION

Findings

1. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DUSK

2. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

#### **Factual Information**

On July 6, 1994, at 2146 mountain daylight time, a Cessna T-188C agricultural aircraft, N4900T, was substantially damaged when it struck a power line while engaged in aerial application activities. The commercial pilot sustained minor injuries. There was no flight plan filed for this flight which had originated at Weiser, Idaho at 2135, and no ELT was installed in the aircraft.

The pilot stated that agricultural operations were being conducted in the evening as they had to "wait for the bees to go to bed," because he was spraying insecticides. He stated that he was flying west, into the sun, and pulled up too early for a transmission line that crossed the field at a 45 degree angle. He said that a wing caught in the power line before crashing.

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Airline transport	Age:	56,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medicalno waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	February 1, 1994
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	17814 hours (Total, all aircraft), 5500 hours (Total, this make and model), 17534 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 227 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 112 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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## **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N4900T
Model/Series:	T-188C T-188C	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	T18802839T
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	November 23, 1993 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	4400 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	227 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3524 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	TSIO-520-T
Registered Owner:	FARMER'S AERIAL APPLICATORS	Rated Power:	310 Horsepower
Operator:	FARMER'S AERIAL APPLICATORS	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	NRWG

## **Meteorological Information and Flight Plan**

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Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Dusk
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	Visibility	15 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	0°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	20°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipi	tation	
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	21:35 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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## **Airport Information**

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

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	44.469139,-116.910942(est)

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Stockhill, Michael	
Additional Participating Persons:	BILL MADSEN; BOISE , ID	
Original Publish Date:	December 2, 1994	
Last Revision Date:		
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>	
Note:		
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=41966	

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 United States Code section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 United States Code section 1154(b) is available here.

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