



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	FRUIT HEIGHTS, Utah	<b>Accident Number:</b>	SEA93LA054
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	January 16, 1993, 11:29 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N8004K
<b>Aircraft:</b>	STINSON 108-2	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

THE PILOT DEPARTED AND HEADED NORTH TOWARD OGDEN, UTAH IN DETERIORATING METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS. HE LATER REQUESTED VECTORS INTO SALT LAKE CITY AIRPORT, THEN OGDEN, BEFORE DECLARING THAT HE WAS IN IMC CONDITIONS AND REQUESTING A HEADING AWAY FROM THE MOUNTAINS. THE AIRCRAFT IMPACTED A STEEP MOUNTAINOUS SLOPE WHILE MANEUVERING. LOCAL WEATHER REPORTS OBSERVED RAIN, SNOW, AND FOG, AS WELL AS REDUCED VISIBILITY IN THE AREA.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC CONDITIONS WAS ATTEMPTED BY THE PILOT. FACTORS INCLUDE RAIN, SNOW, AND FOG.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER  
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

### Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - RAIN
  2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - SNOW
  3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - FOG
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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

4. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - ATTEMPTED - PILOT IN COMMAND

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	31, 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>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	Yes
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	October 11, 1991
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	855 hours (Total, all aircraft), 219 hours (Total, this make and model), 804 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	STINSON	<b>Registration:</b>	N8004K
<b>Model/Series:</b>	108-2 108-2	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	108-3004
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	July 11, 1992 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2400 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	79 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	1977 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	FRANKLIN
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	6A4-150-B3
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	THURSTON, CURTIS L.	<b>Rated Power:</b>	150 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	THURSTON, CURTIS L.	<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>	Instrument (IMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	SLC ,4227 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	15 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	11:43 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	190°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	700 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	1 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Broken / 2000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	12 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	340°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	-18°C / -18°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	N/A - None - Fog		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	BOUNTIFUL , UT (BTF )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	OGDEN , UT (OGD )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	11:00 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class E

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>		<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>	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<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 Fatal	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	41.020183,-111.919837(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Stockhill, Michael
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	ROBERT MCINTRYE; SALT LAKE CITY , UT
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	October 13, 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=42977">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=42977</a>

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