



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Ironwood, Michigan	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CHI03LA110
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	April 23, 2003, 14:08 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N9014A
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Maule M-5-210C	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The airplane ground looped during landing, veered off the runway, and impacted a ditch about 100 yards south of the runway. The pilot stated that in an attempt to recover from the ground loop, he applied full power when he was approaching the edge of the runway but did not have enough airspeed to takeoff. He stated that there was a tail wheel shimmy when he touched down. Inspection of the airplane's tailwheel and flight control system revealed no anomalies.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadvertent ground loop on landing. A contributing factor was the ditch.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING

### Findings

1. (C) GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND  
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Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - DITCH

## Factual Information

On April 23, 2003, at 1408 central daylight time, a Maule M-5-210C, piloted by a private pilot, received substantial damage after it ground looped and impacted terrain during landing on runway 27 (6,000 feet by 100 feet, dry grooved asphalt) at Gogebic-Iron County Airport (IWD), Ironwood, Michigan. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time of the accident. The 14 CFR Part 91 personal flight was not operating on a flight plan. The pilot and passenger were uninjured. The flight departed from Kings Land O' Lakes Airport (LNL), Land O' Lakes, Wisconsin, at 1320, en route to IWD.

The pilot stated that the tail wheel "shimmied" when he made a three point landing on touchdown. He pushed in on the yoke to lift the tail wheel and then pulled on the yoke. He stated that he was not sure if the left turn began at that time. He then applied full power when he saw the edge of the runway approaching and stated that he did not have enough airspeed to regain lift prior to crossing into the grassy area next to the runway. The airplane then impacted a drainage ditch about 100 feet south of the runway.

Inspection of the airplane by the Federal Aviation Administration revealed no anomalies with the airplane's tailwheel and flight control system.

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	65, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<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 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	March 18, 2002
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	August 2, 2002
<b>Flight Time:</b>	643 hours (Total, all aircraft), 52 hours (Total, this make and model), 562 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Maule	<b>Registration:</b>	N9014A
<b>Model/Series:</b>	M-5-210C	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	6107C
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	March 18, 2002 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2300 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	7.2 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	3596 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Continental
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	IO-360-D33B
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	Ray A Richter	<b>Rated Power:</b>	210 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	Ray A. Richter	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	IWD,1230 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	0 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	14:15 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	0°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	5 knots / 0 knots	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	210°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.03 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	15°C / -7°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Land O Lakes, WI (LNL )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Ironwood, MI (IWD )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	13:20 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Gogebic - Iron County Airport IWD	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	1230 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	27	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	6000 ft / 100 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop

## 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>	46.5275,-90.131385

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Gallo, Mitchell
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Vito L Carello; Grand Rapids FSDO; Grand Rapids, MI
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	November 25, 2003
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=56885">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=56885</a>

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