



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Henderson, North Carolina	Accident Number:	ATL05CA072
Date & Time:	April 10, 2005, 15:00 Local	Registration:	N19HG
Aircraft:	Schleicher ASW19b	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot stated that while out soaring on a recreational flight, the glider began to lose lift at approximately 2,500 feet. As the pilot attempted to regain thermal lift, the glider developed a high sink rate. As the glider continued to descend the pilot was unable to regain lift, and made plans to make a forced landing. During the forced landing in a grass field, he overshot the touchdown point and collided with a tree. No flight control malfunctions were reported by the pilot. Post examination of the glider revealed the outboard section of the left wing was broken off of the wing assembly. The weather at the nearest reporting facility Raleigh Durham, North Carolina reported at 14:53: 10-stature miles visibility, sky clear, temperature 22 Celsius, dewpoint 4 Celsius, barometric setting 30.05, winds 09 degrees at 7 knots.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's misjudgment of the landing area which resulted in overshooting the touchdown point. A factor was the in-flight encounter with weather (No thermal lift).

Findings

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

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - NO THERMAL LIFT

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - NORMAL

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

2. OBJECT - TREE(S)

3. (C) PLANNED APPROACH - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

On April 10, 2005, at 1500 eastern daylight time, a Schleicher ASW19B, N19HG, register to and operated by a private pilot, lost lift and collided with a tree while made a forced landing in a private field in Henderson, North Carolina. The personal flight was operated under the provision of Title 14 CFR Part 91 with no flight plan filed. Visual metrological conditions prevailed at the time of the accident. The glider sustained substantial damage and the pilot was not injured. The local flight departed Henderson, North Carolina, at 1300 on April 10, 2005.

The pilot stated while out soaring on a recreational flight, the glider began to lose lift at approximately 2,500 feet. As the pilot attempted to regain thermal lift he encountered a high sink rate. As glider continued to descend, the pilot was unable to regain lift, and selected a field for a forced landing. According to the pilot. during the forced landing to a grass field, he overshot the intended touchdown point and collided with a tree. No flight control malfunctions were reported by the pilot.

Post-accident examination of the glider revealed the outboard section of the left wing was broken off of the wing assembly. The weather at the nearest reporting facility Raleigh Durham, North Carolina reported at 14:53: 10-statue miles visibility, sky clear, temperature 22 Celsius, dewpoint 4 Celsius, barometric setting 30.05, winds 09 degrees at 7 knots.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	62, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3	Last FAA Medical Exam:	March 11, 2003
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	January 19, 2005
Flight Time:	617 hours (Total, all aircraft), 128 hours (Total, this make and model), 15 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Schleicher	Registration:	N19HG
Model/Series:	ASW19b	Aircraft Category:	Glider
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	ASW19B
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - ; Hull	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	October 6, 2004 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	805 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	28 Hrs	Engines:	0
Airframe Total Time:	647 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Aero Engines
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	Kenneth L Butler	Rated Power:	
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	RDU,435 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	14:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	9°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.04 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	22°C / 4°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Ball Field, NC	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Henderson, NC	Type of Clearance:	Unknown
Departure Time:	13:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	36.218055,-78.398612

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Alleyne, Eric
Additional Participating Persons:	Daniel j Ernest; Greensboro FSDO; Greensboro, NC
Original Publish Date:	July 7, 2005
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=61310

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