



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Destin, Florida	Accident Number:	ATL05CA155
Date & Time:	August 28, 2005, 13:25 Local	Registration:	N88432
Aircraft:	Bellanca 8GCBC	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Banner tow		

Analysis

The flight departed Navarre Airport towing a banner eastbound along the Gulf of Mexico near Miramar Beach. The pilot was one hour and forty-five minutes into the flight when the engine lost power. Emergency procedures were executed, however attempts to restart the engine were unsuccessful. The banner in tow was released and the pilot ditched the airplane into the Gulf of Mexico. The pilot swam to shore and the airplane was not recovered for examination.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The loss of engine power for undetermined reasons.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

1. (C) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING

Findings

- 2. TERRAIN CONDITION - DITCH
- 3. TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER

Occurrence #3: DITCHING
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING

Findings

- 4. TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER

Factual Information

On August 28, 2005, at 1325 eastern daylight time, a Bellanca 8GCBC, N88432, registered to and operated by Boomer Aviation Inc, collided with water on Miramar Beach, Destin, Florida. The banner tow flight was operated under the provisions of Title 14 CFR Part 91 and no flight plan was filed. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time of the accident. The commercial pilot was not injured, and the airplane was not recovered. The flight departed Fort Walton Beach Airport, Navarre, Florida, at 1240 August 28, 2005.

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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	65, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	March 1, 2005
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	4600 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4600 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Bellanca	Registration:	N88432
Model/Series:	8GCBC	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	126-75
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	November 1, 2004 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	O&VO-360
Registered Owner:	Boomer Aviation Inc	Rated Power:	
Operator:	Boomer Aviation Inc	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:	Banner Tow	Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	11 knots / 19 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	70°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	31°C / 25°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Ft. Walton Beac, FL (1J9)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Ft. Walton Beac, FL (1J9)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Destin DTS	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:		IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	30.40611,-86.82887

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Powell, Phillip

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: October 27, 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=62342>

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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](#).