



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Glen Canyon Nat, Utah	Accident Number:	SEA07CA064
Date & Time:	February 24, 2007, 14:30 Local	Registration:	N224MT
Aircraft:	Cirrus Design Corp. SR22	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	3 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The aircraft collided with the surface of a lake while flying at low altitude over the water. The pilot said that he was flying over a lake at 50 feet above the water; and that there was a good ripple on the water to give him an altitude reference. He said that he maneuvered the airplane into another section of the lake and he noted that he was approximately 25 feet above the water. The pilot said "a few moments later, near the center of the bay, the water turned to glass smooth, and I must have lost depth perception because in a moment we were touching [the] water." The pilot said the airplane decelerated rapidly, and it did not nose over or sink immediately. The pilot and his two passengers exited the aircraft with no injuries, but spent over an hour swimming to shore in the 44-degree water. They were rescued the from the shore following morning.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's intentional flight over water at low altitude and his subsequent failure to maintain adequate clearance from the water. A contributing factor was the glassy surface condition of the lake.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (C) LOW ALTITUDE FLIGHT/MANEUVER - INTENTIONAL - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER, GLASSY
3. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. VISUAL/AURAL PERCEPTION - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

On February 24, 2007, at approximately 1430 Mountain Standard Time, a Cirrus SR-22, N224MT, was substantially damaged when it impacted the surface of Lake Powell and sank to the bottom in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Utah. The commercial pilot and his two passengers received minor injuries. The owner/pilot was operating the aircraft under Title 14 CFR Part 91. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the cross-country, personal flight, which had originated approximately 30 minutes before the accident. A flight plan had not been filed.

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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	58,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 1, 2006
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1900 hours (Total, all aircraft), 200 hours (Total, this make and model), 1700 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 50 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cirrus Design Corp.	Registration:	N224MT
Model/Series:	SR22	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	1334
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	April 1, 2006 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3400 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	330 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-550-N
Registered Owner:	RCCB Inc.	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:	BCE	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	14:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	300°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.04 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-3°C / -13°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Glen Canyon Nat, UT (U07)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Spanish Fork, UT (U77)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	14:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	2 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	3 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	37.651668,-110.348335

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Struhsaker, James
Additional Participating Persons:	Lewis Olson; FAA FSDO; Salt Lake City, UT
Original Publish Date:	May 29, 2007
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=65346

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