



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Kykotsmovi, Arizona	<b>Accident Number:</b>	LAX08CA166
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	June 7, 2008, 11:40 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N9276T
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Piper PA-38-112	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Fuel exhaustion	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot believed he took off with 14 gallons of fuel aboard, and flew toward his destination, 170 miles away. He calculated that the flight should take 1 hour 40 minutes. En route he noticed that fuel was disappearing quickly, and assumed there was a headwind. After 1 hour 40 minutes, the airplane ran out of fuel, 57 statute miles from his destination, and the pilot landed in the desert. At a fuel consumption rate of 5.3 gallons per hour, the total actual fuel aboard at the time of takeoff was most likely 9 gallons.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: Fuel exhaustion due to the pilot's inadequate preflight planning and failure to ensure that adequate fuel was onboard to complete the flight.

## Findings

<b>Personnel issues</b>	Fuel planning - Pilot
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## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Enroute-cruise</b>	Fuel exhaustion (Defining event)
<b>Landing-flare/touchdown</b>	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	62, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	March 1, 2008
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	July 1, 2007
<b>Flight Time:</b>	308 hours (Total, all aircraft), 233 hours (Total, this make and model), 195 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Piper	<b>Registration:</b>	N9276T
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA-38-112	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal; Utility	<b>Serial Number:</b>	38-78A0313
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	December 1, 2007 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	5221 Hrs as of last inspection	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Lycoming
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-235-L2C
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	Barry W. McDaniel and Anthony Decastro	<b>Rated Power:</b>	126 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	Barry W. McDaniel	<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>		<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>		<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<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>	/	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>		<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	18°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Bull Frog, UT (KU07)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Winslow, AZ (KINW)	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>		<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	35.870277,-110.601669

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	McKenny, Van
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Gary Henderson; Federal Aviation Administration; Scottsdale, AZ
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	July 30, 2008
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=68189">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=68189</a>

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