



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: 18NM ESE KETCHI, Alaska Accident Number: SEA82DA168

Date & Time: September 18, 1982, 19:30 Local Registration: N46563

Aircraft: CESSNA C-180J Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation

Analysis

THE PILOT STATED THAT HE CIRCLED THE LAKE PRIOR TO LANDING. THERE WAS NO WIND AND THE LAKE SURFACE WAS GLASSY. DURING THE FINAL APPROACH, THE PILOT ENCOUNTERED SUN GLARE OFF THE LAKE. THE AIRCRAFT LANDED HARD AND THE WING TIPS CONTACTED THE WATER.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: HARD LANDING

Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

1. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - SUNGLARE

2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER, GLASSY

3. (C) LEVEL OFF - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND

4. (C) LEVEL OFF - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND

5. (F) VISUAL/AURAL DETECTION - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	26,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medicalno waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	October 1, 1981
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	5200 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2510 hours (Total, this make and model), 4900 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 100 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 40 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N46563
Model/Series:	C-180J C-180J	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	18052427
Landing Gear Type:	Float	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	22 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1400 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	0-470-R
Registered Owner:	KENMORE AIR HARBOR, INC.	Rated Power:	230 Horsepower
Operator:	WEST FLIGHT, INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Dusk
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KTN	Distance from Accident Site:	18 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	19:00 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	290°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	30 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Unknown	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	13 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	310°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	57°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	KETCHIKAN , AK (KTN)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Unknown
Destination:	NOTCH LAKE , AK	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	19:20 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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Airport Information

Airport:	NOTCH LAKE	Runway Surface Type:	Water
Airport Elevation:	0 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	22	IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:	4000 ft / 500 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

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:	55.610874,-131.579925(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):

Additional Participating

Persons:

Original Publish Date: September 18, 1983

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: Class

Note:

Investigation Docket: https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=69628

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

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.

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