



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Oakdale, California	Accident Number:	WPR09CA183
Date & Time:	March 25, 2009, 16:30 Local	Registration:	N392JJ
Aircraft:	Denny Aerocraft Kitfox III	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot noted prior to departure that the winds were about the same as when he landed about 30 minutes earlier. He was departing on runway 28, and the winds were from 320 degrees at 10 knots with light gusts. About 5 feet above ground level after liftoff, the airplane suddenly veered to the left and down into a bowl-shaped depression adjacent to the runway. He recovered to unstable, but level, slow flight just inside the basin with the runway about 12 feet above and to the right of his position. He was approaching the end of the depression and lowered the flaps 10 degrees as he pulled up on the control stick. The airplane cleared the slope, but then the wind pushed it to the left again. The right main landing gear contacted the ground followed by firm contact with the left main landing gear and tailwheel. The tail bounced on the ground and the airplane nosed over, sustaining substantial damage to both wings, right flaperon, fuselage, and vertical stabilizer.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate compensation for the crosswind conditions.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	Sloped/uneven terrain - Contributed to outcome
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	Crosswind - Response/compensation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)
Takeoff	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
Takeoff	Nose over/nose down

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	56, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 18, 2007
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	October 14, 2007
Flight Time:	779 hours (Total, all aircraft), 265 hours (Total, this make and model), 675 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 18 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 13 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Denny Aircraft	Registration:	N392JJ
Model/Series:	Kitfox III	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental light sport (Special)	Serial Number:	1146
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1050 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Rotax
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	582/LC
Registered Owner:	Robert M McGregor	Rated Power:	65 Horsepower
Operator:	Robert M McGregor	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KMOD,97 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	11 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	15:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	205°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	13 knots / 20 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	310°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	23°C / 4°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Oakdale, CA (K027)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Rio Linda, CA (KL36)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	16:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Oakdale KO27	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	234 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	28	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3020 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

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:	37.756389,-120.800277(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Plagens, Howard
Additional Participating Persons:	Jim Murray; Federal Aviation Administration; Fresno, CA
Original Publish Date:	June 11, 2009
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=73609

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