



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Koliganek, Alaska	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ANC09CA091
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	September 2, 2009, 13:30 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N6468V
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Helio H-295	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Fuel contamination	<b>Injuries:</b>	3 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Other work use		

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## Analysis

The commercial pilot was on a Title 14, CFR Part 91, passenger flight in conjunction with his fish guiding business when the accident occurred. The pilot reported that he was flying about 700 feet above ground level in his float-equipped, single-engine airplane, when he began transferring fuel from the auxiliary fuel tank to the main fuel tank, and the engine lost power. After a failed attempt to restart the engine, he said he was forced to land the airplane on the tundra. The pilot said there were no known mechanical problems with the airplane prior to the accident. He further reported that it had been raining for several days, and he should have sumped the fuel tanks prior to takeoff. He also stated that he should have initiated the fuel transfer at a higher altitude over terrain that was suitable for landing. He said the float attachments and the fuselage were damaged during the accident.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: A loss of engine power during cruise flight due to water in the fuel, and the pilot's inadequate preflight inspection.

## Findings

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<b>Aircraft</b>	Fuel - Inadequate inspection
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Preflight inspection - Pilot
<b>Aircraft</b>	Fuel - Fluid condition

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Enroute-cruise</b>	Fuel contamination (Defining event)
<b>Emergency descent</b>	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	65, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land; Multi-engine sea	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	May 11, 2009
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	May 12, 2009
<b>Flight Time:</b>	16318 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1661 hours (Total, this make and model), 16243 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Helio	<b>Registration:</b>	N6468V
<b>Model/Series:</b>	H-295	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	1424
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Float	<b>Seats:</b>	6
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	March 6, 2009 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	3800 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	31 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	7041 Hrs at time of accident	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	C91A installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	GO-480 SERIES
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	ALASKA SAFARI INC	<b>Rated Power:</b>	295 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	Kirk Gay	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>	Valhalla Lodge	<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## 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>		<b>Visibility</b>	5 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Broken / 1200 ft AGL	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	10 knots / 15 knots	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	90°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	13°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>			
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Nondalton, AK (NDN )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Nushagak, AK	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	09:00 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	2 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	3 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	59.796943,-157.171112

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Lewis, Lawrence

**Additional Participating Persons:**

**Original Publish Date:** December 29, 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=74650>

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