



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Brigham City, Utah	<b>Accident Number:</b>	WPR11CA486
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	July 19, 2011, 17:21 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N797V
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Schleicher ASW-27	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of lift	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

While participating in a soaring contest, the glider pilot entered an area where atmospheric lift was not sufficient. Instead of reversing his course toward better outlanding fields, he continued with the contest course and task. He ultimately ended up in a location where he was forced to attempt an off-airport landing on unsuitable terrain. Immediately upon touchdown, the glider encountered several small boulders that were hidden in the grass, and the left wing tip became snagged in some tall grass, resulting in a loss of directional control. During the resulting ground loop, both wings sustained substantial damage and the empennage tail boom separated from the main part of the fuselage.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The glider pilot did not take timely action to locate a safe outlanding area after entering an area where atmospheric lift was not sufficient to maintain soaring flight.

## Findings

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<b>Environmental issues</b>	Rough terrain - Contributed to outcome
<b>Environmental issues</b>	(general) - Contributed to outcome
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Decision making/judgment - Pilot
<b>Environmental issues</b>	(general) - Effect on operation

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Enroute</b>	Loss of lift (Defining event)
<b>Landing</b>	Off-field or emergency landing
<b>Landing-landing roll</b>	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	56, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Single
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Glider	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	None	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	3018 hours (Total, all aircraft), 892 hours (Total, this make and model)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Schleicher	<b>Registration:</b>	N797V
<b>Model/Series:</b>	ASW-27	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Glider
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	27145
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	1
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	0
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>		<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	
<b>ELT:</b>		<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	CUMIFORD JAMES H JR	<b>Rated Power:</b>	
<b>Operator:</b>	CUMIFORD JAMES H JR	<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>	Scattered / 3000 ft AGL	<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>	32°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Logan, UT (KLGU)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Logan, UT (KLGU)	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	14:27 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>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	41.516183,-112.03276

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Anderson, Orrin
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Dave Longan; Salt Lake FSDO; Salt Lake City, UT
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	March 8, 2012
<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=82596">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=82596</a>

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