



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: Dadeville, Alabama Accident Number: ERA14CA177

Date & Time: March 27, 2014, 17:30 Local Registration: N59AW

Aircraft: AVIAT AIRCRAFT INC A 1B Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** Landing area overshoot **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

### **Analysis**

The pilot of the amphibian airplane reported that he was attempting to land on a lake with a tailwind. He circled the landing zone once and verified that there was no debris in the water. During the landing flare, the airplane floated beyond the intended touchdown point and was nearing the shore. The pilot initially added power to go-around, but then reduced power when he did not think the airplane would clear the trees near the shoreline. The airplane subsequently nosed over and came to rest in the water. Examination of the airplane by a Federal Aviation Administration inspector revealed substantial damage to both wings and the fuselage. The landing gear was retracted into the floats. The pilot added that there were no preimpact mechanical malfunctions with the airplane.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to obtain the proper touchdown point while landing on a lake with a tailwind.

#### **Findings**

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

Personnel issues Decision making/judgment - Pilot

Aircraft Descent/approach/glide path - Not attained/maintained

Environmental issues Tailwind - Effect on operation

### **Factual Information**

### **History of Flight**

Landing-flare/touchdown Landing area overshoot (Defining event)

Landing Nose over/nose down

**Landing** Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Private	Age:	24
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	October 5, 2012
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	January 11, 2014
Flight Time:	247 hours (Total, all aircraft), 36 hours (Total, this make and model), 186 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 63 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 30 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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### **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Aircraft Make:	AVIAT AIRCRAFT INC	Registration:	N59AW
Model/Series:	A 1B	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2000	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	2058
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel; Float	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	January 3, 2014 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	28 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	608 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-360
Registered Owner:	HUSKYAIRE LLC	Rated Power:	180 Horsepower
Operator:	Douglas Zeiger	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	ALX,686 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	9 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	17:15 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	315°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots / 16 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	150°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ Light
Altimeter Setting:	30.12 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	22°C / -2°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Our Town, AL (AL71)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Dadeville, AL	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:20 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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### **Wreckage and Impact Information**

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	32.830566,-85.759147(est)

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Gretz, Robert
Additional Participating Persons:	Jack Clark; FAA/FSDO; Birmingham, AL
Original Publish Date:	May 5, 2014
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=88987

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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