



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Punta Gorda, Florida	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ERA14CA229
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	April 27, 2014, 15:00 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N543MG
<b>Aircraft:</b>	GINGRAS MICHEL AVENTURA II	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Low altitude operation/event	<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot of the float-equipped airplane stated the purpose of the flight was to "scout for fish." While flying 30 feet above the water the airplane encountered a "huge gust of wind" and then bounced off the water surface multiple times. The pilot applied full power to reestablish flight but the right pontoon contacted the water and the airplane "ground looped." Examination of the airplane by a Federal Aviation Administration inspector revealed substantial damage to the vertical stabilizer. The pilot reported there were no mechanical malfunctions or anomalies that could have precluded normal operation.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

The pilot's failure to maintain clearance from the water while operating at a low altitude.

### Findings

<b>Aircraft</b>	Altitude - Not attained/maintained
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Aircraft control - Pilot
<b>Environmental issues</b>	Gusts - Contributed to outcome



## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Maneuvering-low-alt flying</b>	Low altitude operation/event (Defining event)
<b>Maneuvering-low-alt flying</b>	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	69
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	3-point
<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>	None	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	November 12, 2013
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1386.3 hours (Total, all aircraft), 33.7 hours (Total, this make and model), 1386.3 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 9.8 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3.7 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3.7 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	GINGRAS MICHEL	<b>Registration:</b>	N543MG
<b>Model/Series:</b>	AVENTURA II	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	2009	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	Yes
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Experimental light sport (Special)	<b>Serial Number:</b>	AA2A0148
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel; Amphibian	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	October 5, 2013 Condition	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1430 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	35 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	441 Hrs at time of accident	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	ROTAX
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	912ULS
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	CLAUS DONNA M	<b>Rated Power:</b>	0 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	John Keyworth	<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>	PGD,26 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	14 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	18:53 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	200°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	9 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/ None
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	250°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/ N/A
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29.96 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	32°C / 21°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	PUNTA GORDA, FL (PGD )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	PUNTA GORDA, FL (PGD )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	VFR
<b>Departure Time:</b>	14:00 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class E

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	2 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	26.722221,-82.07389(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Stein, Stephen
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Robert Donahue; FAA/FSDO; Tampa Bay, FL
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	July 30, 2014
<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=89186">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=89186</a>

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