



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Enumclaw, Washington	Accident Number:	WPR14CA219
Date & Time:	May 30, 2014, 18:00 Local	Registration:	N77FZ
Aircraft:	PZL-SWIDNIK PW 5	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported while entering the airport traffic pattern, the glider encountered additional lift and he was too high for landing. The pilot attempted to descend by deploying the spoilers and performing a couple of 360 degree turns, however the glider did not lose altitude so he initiated a slip to lose the altitude. Just prior to touchdown, as he aligned the glider to runway heading, it stalled and landed hard. During the landing roll, the right wing struck the ground and the glider ground looped. The glider sustained substantial damage to the fuselage and the empennage. The pilot reported no mechanical malfunction or anomalies that would have precluded normal operation, prior to the accident.

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 control of the glider during the landing flare which resulted in a stall and hard landing.

Findings

Personnel issues

Aircraft control - Pilot

Aircraft

Landing flare - Not attained/maintained

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Hard landing
Landing-landing roll	Dragged wing/rotor/float/other

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	44
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	None None	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	September 8, 2013
Flight Time:	22 hours (Total, all aircraft), 9 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PZL-SWIDNIK	Registration:	N77FZ
Model/Series:	PW 5 NO SERIES	Aircraft Category:	Glider
Year of Manufacture:	1998	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	1711002
Landing Gear Type:	N/A	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	February 14, 2014 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	660 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	
Airframe Total Time:	877 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PLU,538 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	17 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	17:55 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	241°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	350°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	20°C / 8°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Enumclaw, WA (WN76)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Enumclaw, WA (WN76)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	BERGSETH FIELD WN76	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt;Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	1100 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	10	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2100 ft / 60 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	47.195556,-122.021942(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Nixon, Albert
Additional Participating Persons:	Kris Kern; Federal Aviation Administration; Seattle, WA
Original Publish Date:	September 30, 2014
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=89340

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