



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Everglades City, Florida	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ERA15CA021
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	October 18, 2014, 10:30 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N254WM
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Piper PA-24-260	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Landing area overshoot	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

According to the pilot, the flight was uneventful; however, as he flared the airplane in ground effect, it floated and overran the runway coming to rest inverted, in about 6 feet of water. He was unable to recall if he applied power to the engine in order to perform a go-around. An eyewitness reported that the airplane's landing gear did not make contact with the runway surface and subsequently contacted mangrove vegetation at the departure end of the runway prior to the airplane nosing over into the water. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing. The pilot reported no pre-impact mechanical malfunctions or abnormalities with the airplane that would 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 improper approach to landing and his failure to perform a go-around, which resulted in a runway overshoot, runway excursion, and collision with vegetation and water.

### Findings

<b>Personnel issues</b>	Aircraft control - Pilot
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Decision making/judgment - Pilot
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Lack of action - Pilot
<b>Aircraft</b>	Landing distance - Not attained/maintained



## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Landing-flare/touchdown</b>	Landing area overshoot (Defining event)
<b>Landing</b>	Runway excursion
<b>Landing</b>	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
<b>Landing</b>	Nose over/nose down

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	64
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Lap only
<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 3 With waivers/limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	February 26, 2014
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	November 16, 2012
<b>Flight Time:</b>	2250 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2000 hours (Total, this make and model), 2250 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Piper	<b>Registration:</b>	N254WM
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA-24-260	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	1965	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	24-4167
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	December 1, 2013 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	3200 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	5825 Hrs at time of accident	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	IO-540-D4A5
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	On file	<b>Rated Power:</b>	260 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<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>	KAPF, 23 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	28 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	09:53 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	312°
<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>	/	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/ None
<b>Wind Direction:</b>		<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	26°C / 20°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	NAPLES, FL (APF )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Everglades City, FL (X01 )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	10:00 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	EVERGLADES AIRPARK X01	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	5 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	15	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	2400 ft / 60 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop;Traffic pattern

## 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>	25.840555,-81.38639(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Etcher, Shawn
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Ramon Grillo; FAA/FSDO; Miramar, FL
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	January 12, 2015
<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=90272">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=90272</a>

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