



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Marble Canyon, Arizona	Accident Number:	GAA16CA003
Date & Time:	October 4, 2015, 15:00 Local	Registration:	C-FIIB
Aircraft:	Bushmaster Super Bushmaster	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Non-U.S., non-commercial		

Analysis

According to the visiting foreign pilot's written statement, while on approach to land at a desert airport, he encountered severe turbulence, was unable to maintain altitude, and the airplane impacted the ground 50 feet short of the runway. The nearest weather reporting station was 12 NM to the north-east, and reported that the wind was 150 degrees true at 13 knots, with gusts to 19. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the wings, fuselage and empennage.

The pilot reported that there were no mechanical failures or anomalies prior to or during the flight that would have prevented normal flight 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 descent rate durring the landing resulting in collision with terrain.

Findings

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Aircraft	Descent rate - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	Terrain induced turbulence - Effect on equipment

Factual Information

History of Flight

Approach	Turbulence encounter
Approach	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Foreign; Private	Age:	64, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
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:	Unknown Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	October 8, 2014
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	May 7, 2014
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 1400 hours (Total, all aircraft), 290 hours (Total, this make and model), 1286 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 37 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 0.1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Passenger Information

Certificate:		Age:	Female
Airplane Rating(s):		Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):		Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:		Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:			

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Bushmaster	Registration:	C-FIIB
Model/Series:	Super Bushmaster LS180S	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2011	Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	BC 001
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 11, 2015 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	290 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	C126 installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360
Registered Owner:	Cameron Bruce Fraser	Rated Power:	230 Horsepower
Operator:	Cameron Bruce Fraser	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PGA, 4316 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	12 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	21:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	45°
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 8000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	11 knots / 22 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	180°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.84 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	21°C / 9°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	Light - None - Rain		
Departure Point:	LAS VEGAS, NV (HND)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	Marble Canyon, AZ (AZ03)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	12:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	CLIFF DWELLERS AZ03	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:	4217 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	22	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3820 ft / 40 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	36.734443,-111.752777(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hicks, Michael
Additional Participating Persons:	Daniel J Teske; Federal Aviation Administration; Las Vegas, NV
Original Publish Date:	January 15, 2016
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=92123

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