



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Cuddybackville, New York	Accident Number:	GAA16CA342
Date & Time:	June 17, 2016, 19:40 Local	Registration:	N280E
Aircraft:	Schleicher ASW 28	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Landing area overshoot	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that during a soaring competition, he found himself in an area of sink and proceeded to an open field that he had pre-selected, in the event that an off-field landing was warranted. He reported that he had a choice of two open fields, selected the field with the northeast to southwest orientation, overflowed the field and noted that trees marked the northeast and southwest boundaries. He reported that he made his approach from the northeast, overshot the intended landing zone and impacted the trees that marked the southwest boundary. The glider sustained substantial damage to both wings and the empennage.

The landing zone was about 800 feet long, from the northeast to the southwest boundary, and the trees were about 50 feet high.

The pilot reported that there were no mechanical malfunctions or anomalies with the glider prior to impact that would have prevented normal flight operations.

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 the glide path required for landing in the off-field landing zone.

Findings

Aircraft	Descent/approach/glide path - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	Tree(s) - Effect on equipment

Factual Information

History of Flight

Maneuvering	Loss of lift
Maneuvering	Off-field or emergency landing
Landing-flare/touchdown	Landing area overshoot (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	63, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Single
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	August 6, 2015
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	December 5, 2015
Flight Time:	787 hours (Total, all aircraft), 530 hours (Total, this make and model), 747 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 90 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 46 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Schleicher	Registration:	N280E
Model/Series:	ASW 28 UNDESIGNAT	Aircraft Category:	Glider
Year of Manufacture:	2001	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	28033
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tailwheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	September 4, 2015 Condition	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1157 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	
Airframe Total Time:	1267.5 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	
ELT:	C91A installed, not activated	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:	KMGJ, 365 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	15 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	21:54 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	80°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 9000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	210°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.97 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	26°C / 13°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Wurtsboro, NY (N82)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Wurtsboro, NY (N82)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	14:47 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	41.467224,-74.593887(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hicks, Michael
Additional Participating Persons:	Dramaine James; FAA; Teterboro, NJ
Original Publish Date:	December 5, 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=93487

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