



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Reno, Nevada	Accident Number:	GAA16CA428
Date & Time:	August 12, 2016, 12:01 Local	Registration:	N26104
Aircraft:	GRUMMAN AMERICAN AVN. CORP. AA 5A	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Miscellaneous/other	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that while flying over a lake he developed a severe headache and decided to land on a remote dirt area on the northwest side of the lake to rest. He overflew his intended landing site and did not see any obstructions to landing. However, he further reported that close to touch down he noticed fence posts perpendicular to his landing path and applied full power to climb over them, but was unsuccessful. The airplane impacted the posts, which resulted in substantial damage to the wings.

The pilot reported that there were no preimpact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airframe or engine 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 failure to see and avoid fence posts during landing, which resulted in substantial damage to the wings.

Findings

Environmental issues	Fence/fence post - Effect on operation
Personnel issues	Monitoring environment - Pilot
Aircraft	Altitude - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	(general) - Pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight

Enroute-cruise	Miscellaneous/other
Maneuvering	Miscellaneous/other (Defining event)
Approach-VFR go-around	Controlled flight into terr/obj (CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	54, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Unknown
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:	March 17, 2015
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	March 16, 2016
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 225.8 hours (Total, all aircraft), 189.1 hours (Total, this make and model), 118.5 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 42 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 29.7 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	GRUMMAN AMERICAN AVN. CORP.	Registration:	N26104
Model/Series:	AA 5A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1977	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Utility	Serial Number:	AA5A0402
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	July 1, 2016 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1701.4 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-E2G
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
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:	KRTS,5053 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	29 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	19:55 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	193°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	80°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.22 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	30°C / -5°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	LINCOLN, CA (LHM)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	LINCOLN, CA (LHM)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	10:45 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:	40.134723,-119.734169(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Benhoff, Kathryn
Additional Participating Persons:	Michael J Shurtleff; FAA; Reno, NV
Original Publish Date:	October 27, 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=93830

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