



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	FRENCHGLEN, OR	Accident Number:	SEA86FA215
Date & Time:	08/21/1986, 1015 PDT	Registration:	N73569
Aircraft:	CESSNA T207A	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	6 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled		

Analysis

ALTHOUGH LOW ALTITUDE FLIGHT WITHIN THE GORGE WAS NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MISSION PROFILE THE PILOT ENTERED THE CANYON AND PROCEEDED UPSLOPE TOWARDS RISING TERRAIN. 87% OF THE PILOT'S EXTENSIVE FLIGHT EXPERIENCE WAS IN HELICOPTER AIRCRAFT AND HE HAD ACQUIRED AN ESTIMATED TOTAL OF ONLY 13 HOURS IN MAKE/MODEL AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT. THE AIRCRAFT WAS SLIGHTLY OVER ITS GROSS WEIGHT AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT AND HIGH DENSITY ALTITUDE CONDITIONS EXISTED. DURING THE PILOT'S ATTEMPT TO REVERSE DIRECTION AT THE END OF THE GORGE THE AIRCRAFT STALLED AND A LOSS OF CONTROL FOLLOWED. A STALL/SPIN MANEUVER RESULTED PLACING THE AIRCRAFT IN AN UNCONTROLLED DESCENT INTO THE TERRAIN.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - TURN TO REVERSE DIRECTION

Findings

1. (C) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - RISING
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - HIGH DENSITY ALTITUDE
4. (F) CLEARANCE - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (F) AIRCRAFT WEIGHT AND BALANCE - EXCEEDED - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. (C) AIRSPEED(VS) - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
7. (F) LACK OF TOTAL EXPERIENCE IN TYPE OF AIRCRAFT - PILOT IN COMMAND
8. STALL/SPIN

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	55, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Helicopter	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	06/02/1986
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	14106 hours (Total, all aircraft), 13 hours (Total, this make and model), 13871 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 158 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N73569
Model/Series:	T207A T207A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	20700603
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	7
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	03/24/1986, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	45 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1235 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	TSIO-520-M
Registered Owner:	FARM DEVELOPMENT CORP.	Rated Power:	285 hp
Operator:	IDAHO HELICOPTERS, INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand Air Taxi (135)

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	BNO, 4144 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	57 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1050 PDT	Direction from Accident Site:	318°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 12000 ft agl	Visibility	60 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	150°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	24° C / 9° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	MCDERMITT, OR (26U)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	BURNS, OR (BNO)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0945 PDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	5 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	On-Ground
Total Injuries:	6 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	STEVEN A MCCREARY	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:	ROBERT H LEWIS; BOISE, ID ROBERT J MARTIN M GRIMES; LANCASTER, CA W HOSTETLER; WICHITA, KS		
Publish Date:			
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).