



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	TUSAYAN, AZ	Accident Number:	LAX97LA060
Date & Time:	12/01/1996, 1036 MST	Registration:	N3566X
Aircraft:	Piper PA-32R-301T	Injuries:	5 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot called the tower on the radio at 1009 and stated he was inbound to the airport with a low fuel state. Shortly thereafter, the pilot reported that the engine had quit and he would not make the runway. The aircraft landed on a forest service road and collided with trees during the ground roll. In a written statement to responding sheriff's deputies the pilot reported that he 'miscalculated the fuel for the duration of the trip and ran out of gas.' Examination of the fuel system revealed that it was intact and contained only residual fuel.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: Fuel exhaustion due to the pilot's inadequate preflight planning and his miscalculation of the fuel required for the flight.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
 2. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
 3. (C) FUEL CONSUMPTION CALCULATIONS - INACCURATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

4. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	38
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	200 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N3566X
Model/Series:	PA-32R-301T PA-32R-301	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	CLYDE W. CROWNOVER	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	TSIO-540-S1AD
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	GCN, 6606 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	3 knots / , 210°
Temperature:	-1 °C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	ST GEORGE, UT (SGU)	Destination:	(GCN)

Airport Information

Airport:	GRAND CANYON (GCN)	Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	0	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	4 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:			

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): JEFF RICH Adopted Date: 03/31/1998

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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