



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	SPANGLE, WA	Accident Number:	SEA01LA013
Date & Time:	11/02/2000, 1900 PST	Registration:	N734UW
Aircraft:	Cessna 172N	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

During a night approach to an unlighted field, the pilot came in high in order to avoid the trees off the approach end of the runway. After crossing the runway threshold and pulling the power to idle, the pilot realized that he was too high. He therefore elected to slip the aircraft in order to lose altitude. During the slip, the aircraft drifted beyond the side boundary of the runway and touched down in an adjacent plowed field. Although the touchdown was uneventful, soon thereafter the nose gear sank into the soft dirt and the aircraft nosed over. According to the pilot, he did not realize he had allowed the aircraft to drift over the plowed field until after the nose gear started to sink into the terrain.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequately executed remedial action and his failure to ensure that the aircraft touched down at the proper location. Factors include a dark night, an unlighted runway, and trees off the approach end of the runway.

Findings

Occurrence #1: NOSE OVER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. (C) REMEDIAL ACTION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) PROPER TOUCHDOWN POINT - NOT ATTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
4. (F) AIRPORT FACILITIES, RUNWAY EDGE LIGHTS - NOT AVAILABLE ON SELECTED RUNWAY
5. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	46
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	295 hours (Total, all aircraft), 170 hours (Total, this make and model), 266 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N734UW
Model/Series:	172N 172N	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	FELTS FIELD AVIATION	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-H2AD
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Pilot
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	Light and Variable / , Variable
Temperature:		Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	SPOKANE, WA (SFF)	Destination:	(03WA)

Airport Information

Airport:	SPANGLE FIELD	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Runway Used:	18	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	2800 ft / 70 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	ORRIN K ANDERSON	Adopted Date:	05/18/2001
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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