



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Chefornak, AK	Accident Number:	ANC01LA053
Date & Time:	05/03/2001, 1050 AKD	Registration:	N4089W
Aircraft:	Piper PA-32-300	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled		

Analysis

The commercial air taxi pilot related he was attempting to land on a gravel runway in a direct crosswind of approximately 15 knots. During the final approach to land, he said the airplane stalled, and landed hard. The airplane went off the side of the runway and received substantial damage. The pilot indicated there were no preimpact mechanical problems with the airplane.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadvertent stall/mush during the final phase of the landing approach. A factor associated with the accident is a crosswind.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CROSSWIND
2. (C) STALL/MUSH - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

3. TERRAIN CONDITION - RUNWAY

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	34
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Single-engine
Flight Time:	3000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2000 hours (Total, this make and model), 2700 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 120 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 60 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N4089W
Model/Series:	PA-32-300	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Bellair, Inc.	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand Air Taxi (135)	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Weather Information Source:	Pilot
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 1500 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	15 knots / 5 knots, 270°
Temperature:	2° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Bethel, AK (BET)	Destination:	Cherfornak, AK (CFK)

Airport Information

Airport:	Cherfornak (CFK)	Runway Surface Type:	Gravel
Runway Used:	34	Runway Surface Condition:	Rough
Runway Length/Width:	2500 ft / 25 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:	60.147500, -164.290000		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	James D La Belle	Adopted Date:	07/01/2002
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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