



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Healy, AK	Accident Number:	ANC01LA099
Date & Time:	08/03/2001, 1250 AKD	Registration:	N9794M
Aircraft:	Cessna 207	Injuries:	6 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled		

Analysis

The certificated commercial pilot was flying the second airplane in a flight of two airplanes, within an area of mountainous terrain. Shortly after takeoff he lost sight of the first airplane, but was able to maintain radio contact. As the flight progressed, it began to rain, accompanied by diminished visibility and low ceilings. He then became disoriented to his exact position, and he mistakenly turned into a small valley. The pilot said that once he entered the valley, the terrain began rising, so he initiated a climb. The valley became too narrow to turn around, and the clouds began to close around the airplane as he continued to climb. The terrain continued to rise, and he noticed his airspeed was decreasing. Shortly thereafter, the airplane collided with rising terrain, and sustained substantial damage.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's continued flight into adverse weather conditions after becoming lost/disoriented. Factors in the accident were rising terrain, a blind/box canyon, low clouds, and rain.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER
Phase of Operation: CLIMB

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CLOUDS
2. (C) BECAME LOST/DISORIENTED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - RAIN
4. (C) FLIGHT INTO ADVERSE WEATHER - CONTINUED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: CLIMB

Findings

5. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - MOUNTAINOUS/HILLY
6. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - RISING
7. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - BLIND/BOX CANYON

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	58
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	2762 hours (Total, all aircraft), 245 hours (Total, this make and model), 2634 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 329 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 120 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N9794M
Model/Series:	207	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Denali Air Taxi, Inc.	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand Air Taxi (135)	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-F
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Weather Information Source:	Pilot
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	Light and Variable / ,
Temperature:	13° C	Visibility	0.25 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Healy, AK (HRR)	Destination:	Denali Airstrip, AK (AK06)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	5 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	63.700000, -148.200000		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Clinton O Johnson	Adopted Date:	06/03/2002
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.ntsbt.gov/pubdms/ .		

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accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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