



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Jackson, WY	Accident Number:	DEN02LA067
Date & Time:	07/01/2002, 1650 MDT	Registration:	N33515
Aircraft:	Schreder RS-15	Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The glider was observed circling the summit block of Grand Teton Mountain. A witness reported seeing the glider proceed southeast to northwest. The glider's left wing contacted the mountain approximately 150 feet below the summit. The witness reported seeing the wing crumple and then hearing a loud noise. The glider then disappeared behind the north side of the mountain. The wreckage was located the following morning. The glider wreckage was spread down the north face of Grand Teton Mountain beginning approximately 200 feet below the summit and extending down the mountain approximately 1,500 feet. A wing was identified as resting approximately 700 feet below the summit in the wreckage path. The reported weather in the area, about the time of the accident, was clear skies, visibility 10 statute miles, temperature 75 degrees F, winds 240 degrees at 19 knots with gusts to 28 knots, and an altimeter setting of 30.18 inches of Mercury.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the pilot's failure to maintain adequate clearance from the mountain summit.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. WEATHER CONDITION - HIGH WIND
3. WEATHER CONDITION - GUSTS

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Instructor Rating(s):	Glider
Flight Time:	497 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Schreder	Registration:	N33515
Model/Series:	RS-15	Engines:	
Operator:	David A. Ryhti	Engine Manufacturer:	
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	
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:	JAC, 6445 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	18 knots / 28 knots, 240°
Temperature:	24° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Driggs, ID (U59)	Destination:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	43.733333, -110.803333		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	David C Bowling	Adopted Date:	01/16/2003
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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