



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

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<b>Location:</b>	North Las Vegas, NV	<b>Accident Number:</b>	LAX03LA177
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	06/01/2003, 1120 MST	<b>Registration:</b>	N991RW
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Robinson R22 Beta	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

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## Analysis

The helicopter collided with a wire during high reconnaissance operations for a pinnacle approach. The pilot was on his third pattern around the pinnacle when the helicopter collided with a wire that was strung from a pole to the side of a mountain. The wire wrapped around the main rotor swash plate and the pilot entered an autorotation onto a hillside. The tail rotor and boom were damaged upon touchdown. The pilot estimated his altitude was 400 feet above ground level (agl) when the collision occurred.

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:  
The pilot's failure to maintain an adequate visual lookout.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

### Findings

1. OBJECT - GUY WIRE
  2. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING  
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING

### Findings

3. AUTOROTATION - PERFORMED
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Occurrence #3: HARD LANDING  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

### Findings

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - ROUGH/UNEVEN

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	39
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Helicopter	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Flight Time:</b>	86 hours (Total, all aircraft), 65 hours (Total, this make and model), 40 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 28 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 14 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Robinson	<b>Registration:</b>	N991RW
<b>Model/Series:</b>	R22 Beta	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Operator:</b>	Silver State Helicopters	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Lycoming
<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-360-JJA
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual Conditions	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KLAS, 2181 ft msl	<b>Weather Information Source:</b>	Weather Observation Facility
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	4 knots / , 60°
<b>Temperature:</b>	34° C	<b>Visibility</b>	10 Miles
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>			
<b>Departure Point:</b>	North Las Vegas, NV (KVGT)	<b>Destination:</b>	(KVGT)

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	36.200000, -115.183333		

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Nicole Charnon	<b>Adopted Date:</b>	09/29/2004
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	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 <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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