



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Cedar City, UT	Accident Number:	DEN04LA001
Date & Time:	10/01/2003, 1255 MDT	Registration:	N9XQ
Aircraft:	Elliott Mustang II	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that he had just begun his descent when the airplane's engine suddenly lost power. The pilot attempted a restart without success. He said he declared an emergency, and established a best glide speed. The pilot set up for a forced landing to a state highway. He said he set "full flap" and "let the airplane stall at about 25-30 [feet], which resulted in a sudden drop ..." The airplane impacted on the road. The landing gear collapsed and the airplane slid on the road, substantially damaging both wings and the forward fuselage. The airplane came to a stop within 200 feet of its initial impact point. The pilot said he fueled the 28 gallon tank to full before leaving on his trip. The pilot reported that since the refueling he had flown a total of 2 hours and 20 minutes. The pilot said that the airplane's engine burns approximately 8 to 8-1/2 gallons per hour. An examination of the fuel tanks, lines, sump, and fuel filter showed no evidence of fuel. No other anomalies with the airplane were found.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate preflight planning/preparation which led to fuel exhaustion and subsequent loss of engine power.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: DESCENT

Findings

1. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING

Findings

3. EMERGENCY PROCEDURE - ATTEMPTED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING

Findings

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - ROADWAY/HIGHWAY

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	59
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	1175 hours (Total, all aircraft), 84 hours (Total, this make and model), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Elliott	Registration:	N9XQ
Model/Series:	Mustang II	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Lynne E. Elliott	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360
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:	CDC, 5626 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	20 knots / , 210°
Temperature:	27° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Monument Valley, AZ	Destination:	Cedar City, UT (CDC)

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:	37.701111, -113.098611		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	David C Bowling	Adopted Date:	03/02/2004
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 pubin@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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