



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Glasgow, MT	Accident Number:	SEA04FA032
Date & Time:	01/01/2004, 1900 MST	Registration:	N3171S
Aircraft:	Cessna 182G	Injuries:	4 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation -		

Analysis

The pilot and three passengers were completing the final leg of a round robin cross-country flight that originated earlier in the day. Approximately 2 hours 30 minutes into the final leg of the cross-country flight, the pilot received an in-flight weather update for the route of flight. The weather specialist reported low ceilings and low visibilities along the intended route. Additionally, the specialist reported that VFR flights were not recommended due to an AIRMET for IFR conditions, icing conditions and areas of mountain obscuration. Subsequent to receiving the updated weather information, the pilot reported that he was diverting to an alternate airport northwest of his location. After failing to arrive at the planned destination, an ALNOT was issued for the missing airplane. The airplane wreckage was later located southeast of the intended alternate. Infrared weather satellite imagery showed areas of enhanced widespread cloud cover and cloud tops northwest of the accident location on the night of the accident. Dark night conditions prevailed at the time of the accident.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: Loss of aircraft control resulting in an in-flight collision with terrain. Factors include marginal weather and dark night conditions.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CLOUDS
2. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT

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

Findings

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - GROUND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	45
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	121 hours (Total, all aircraft), 32 hours (Total, this make and model), 63 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 27 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N3171S
Model/Series:	182G	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	James W. Newman	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-470
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation -		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:		Condition of Light:	Night
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KGGW, 2294 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	10 knots / , 100°
Temperature:	-17° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	MOBRIDGE, SD (MBG)	Destination:	CUT BANK, MT (CTB)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	3 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	48.096667, -107.114167		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Dennis J Hogenson	Adopted Date:	01/24/2005
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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