



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Port Heiden, AK	Accident Number:	ANC05CA115
Date & Time:	08/01/2005, 1045 AKD	Registration:	N9062D
Aircraft:	Piper PA-18	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The private pilot reported that while practicing beach landings he made a low, slow pass over a beach to check its suitability for landing. After determining the beach was suitable for landing, he made a left turn to the beach for landing. He added flaps in the turn, and as he turned final, he realized he was too low and too slow. He added power, but the airplane impacted terrain short of the intended landing area. The landing gear collapsed, and the wings and fuselage impacted the ground. The pilot stated there were no known mechanical anomalies with the airplane prior to the accident.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's misjudged distance/altitude during final approach, which resulted in an undershoot and an in-flight collision with terrain.

Findings

Occurrence #1: UNDERSHOOT
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

Findings
1. (C) DISTANCE/ALTITUDE - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

Findings
2. TERRAIN CONDITION - GROUND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	22
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	193 hours (Total, all aircraft), 100 hours (Total, this make and model), 43 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	Piper	Registration:	N9062D
Model/Series:	PA-18	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Jonathan Stone	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-320
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:		Weather Information Source:	
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	
Temperature:		Visibility:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Port Heiden, AK	Destination:	Port Heiden, AK

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Lawrence R Lewis	Adopted Date:	12/20/2005
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
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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