



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Batesville, AR	Accident Number:	DFW07FA051
Date & Time:	01/04/2007, 1235 CST	Registration:	N2658
Aircraft:	Cessna 182R	Injuries:	2 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Aerial Observation		

Analysis

While on a company visual flight rules flight plan, the instrument-rated commercial pilot and observer were returning from a three day pipeline patrol trip. On the morning of the accident they had "picked up" the pipeline and were following it on a 693-nautical mile cross-country flight to their home base. Standard procedure was to fly above the pipeline at an altitude of approximately 500-feet while the observer examined the pipeline. As they approached an airport for a planned fuel stop, the single-engine airplane impacted trees near the top of a hill that was located approximately 1.45 miles northeast from the approach end, and near the extended center line of the runway. The airplane came to rest in an inverted position about 275-feet beyond the initial tree impact. At the time of their arrival, the automated weather observation facility at the airport was reporting a visibility of 5 statute miles with 300-foot overcast. The wreckage was not located until about 1230 the following day. The airplane was equipped with an emergency locating transmitter; however, the transmitter was found in the "OFF" position. All major components of the airplane were accounted for at the site and there was no evidence of fire. An examination of the airframe and engine did not reveal any pre impact anomalies that would have prevented normal operation.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain clearance from trees. A contributing factor to the accident was the prevailing low ceilings.

Findings

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

Findings

1. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LOW CEILING
3. OBJECT - TREE(S)

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

Findings

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - GROUND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	39
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	7563 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3546 hours (Total, this make and model), 7300 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 151 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 59 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N2658
Model/Series:	182R	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Barr Air Patrol LLC	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-470
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Aerial Observation		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	BVX, 464 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 300 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	6 knots / , 110°
Temperature:	8° C	Visibility	5 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	VALPARAISO, IN (VPZ)	Destination:	BATESVILLE, AR (BVX)

Airport Information

Airport:	BATESVILLE REGIONAL (BVX)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	25	Runway Surface Condition:	Unknown
Runway Length/Width:	6002 ft / 150 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	35.732222, -91.615000		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Timothy J LeBaron

Adopted Date: 01/31/2008

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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