



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Maricopa, CA	Accident Number:	SEA08LA070
Date & Time:	02/02/2008, 1000 PST	Registration:	N96KR
Aircraft:	KIDD CHRIS HARMON ROC	Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot departed a location where visual meteorological conditions existed, and was attempting to fly to another location that was also reporting visual meteorological conditions. During the flight, the pilot entered an area of hilly terrain that was covered by a low overcast ceiling of variable height. While maneuvering through that area in winds that were reportedly gusting to 10 miles per hour, the airplane impacted the terrain. No evidence was found of any anomaly or malfunction of the airframe, flight controls, or engine.

Flight Events

Maneuvering-low-alt flying - Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

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 terrain clearance altitude while maneuvering in mountainous, hilly terrain. Contributing to the accident were hilly terrain, a low ceiling and gusty winds.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Altitude-Not attained/maintained - C

Environmental issues-Physical environment-Terrain-Mountainous/hilly terrain-Not specified - F

Environmental issues-Conditions/weather/phenomena-Wind-Gusts-Effect on operation - F

Environmental issues-Conditions/weather/phenomena-Ceiling/visibility/precip-Low ceiling-Effect on operation - F

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:	2600 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	KIDD CHRIS	Registration:	N96KR
Model/Series:	HARMON ROC	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	KIDD CHRIS	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:		Weather Information Source:	Witness
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	/ 10 knots, Variable
Temperature:	10° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Taft, CA (L17)	Destination:	New Cuyama, CA (L88)

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Orrin K Anderson	Adopted Date:	12/28/2008
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.ntsbt.gov/pubdms/ .		

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