



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

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<b>Location:</b>	Three Forks, MT	<b>Accident Number:</b>	SEA08CA102
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	04/03/2008, 1705 MDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N1139C
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Piper PA-22/20	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

The pilot was landing the tailwheel equipped airplane in a crosswind on runway 20 and reported that during the landing roll, "...a sudden gust from the west lifted the right wing and landing gear." As the pilot attempted to correct the situation, the airplane's left main landing gear strut collapsed, and the left wing struck the runway surface. The airplane received structural damage to left wing and fuselage. The wind at the time of the accident was from 110 degrees at 10 knots. No mechanical malfunctions were reported.

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate compensation for wind conditions during landing. A gusting crosswind was a contributing factor.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING

### Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CROSSWIND
  2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - GUSTS
  3. (C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING

### Findings

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - RUNWAY

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	52
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Flight Time:</b>	440 hours (Total, all aircraft), 70 hours (Total, this make and model), 46 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 23 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Manufacturer:</b>	Piper	<b>Registration:</b>	N1139C
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA-22/20	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Operator:</b>	Douglas S. Cairns	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Lycoming
<b>Air Carrier Operating Certificate:</b>	None	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-320
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	9S5, 3893 ft msl	<b>Weather Information Source:</b>	Weather Observation Facility
<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual Conditions	<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None
<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	10 knots, 110°
<b>Temperature:</b>		<b>Visibility</b>	30 Miles
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Townsend, MT (8U8)	<b>Destination:</b>	Three Forks, MT (9S5)

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Three Forks (9S5)	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Runway Used:</b>	20	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	5100 ft / 60 ft		

## Wreckage and Impact Information

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

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Dennis J Hogenson	<b>Adopted Date:</b>	05/28/2008
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	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 <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report.