



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Oakland, CA	Accident Number:	WPR09LA071
Date & Time:	01/03/2009, 1445 PST	Registration:	N226PF
Aircraft:	PZL PZL-104 35A	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that during a local personal flight, the engine lost power as a result of fuel exhaustion. During the forced landing, he maneuvered to avoid power lines and subsequently impacted trees. The pilot related that he thought he had enough fuel for a short local flight. Post accident, the pilot stated that he did not realize he had flown the airplane for more than 4 hours since it had been refueled. The airplane's fuel endurance is about 4 hours.

Flight Events

Prior to flight - Preflight or dispatch event
Maneuvering - Fuel exhaustion

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
A loss of engine power due to fuel exhaustion as a result of the pilot's inadequate preflight planning.

Findings

Aircraft-Fluids/misc hardware-Fluids-Fuel-Fluid level - C
Personnel issues-Task performance-Planning/preparation-Fuel planning-Pilot - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	77
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane; Helicopter
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider; Helicopter	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	11000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 50 hours (Total, this make and model), 11000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	PZL	Registration:	N226PF
Model/Series:	PZL-104 35A Wilga	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	On file	Engine Manufacturer:	Ivchenko
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	A1-14RA
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	OAK, 9 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 25000 ft agl
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots, 280°
Temperature:	11°C / -2°C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Oakland, CA (OAK)	Destination:	Oakland, CA (OAK)

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Patrick H Jones	Adopted Date:	12/29/2009
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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