



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Rockwood, ME	Accident Number:	ERA10LA390
Date & Time:	08/01/2010, 1115 EDT	Registration:	N369E
Aircraft:	CESSNA A185F	Injuries:	1 Fatal, 1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The amphibious float-equipped airplane departed from a paved runway for the flight, where a water landing on a lake was to be made. The pilot did not raise the landing gear after takeoff. Upon reaching the destination, the landing gear contacted the water during landing and the airplane abruptly nosed over. The airplane came to rest floating inverted, suspended by the floats. The month preceding the accident the pilot had several medical tests performed and was anticipating surgery for the removal of stomach cancer. While the pilot may have been having difficulty sleeping due to back pain or his impending surgery or possible chemotherapy, the investigation was unable to determine that fatigue was a factor in the accident. His toxicology results indicated recent use of diphenhydramine (an over-the-counter antihistamine) at levels that would have likely been impairing at the time of the accident.

Flight Events

Initial climb - Landing gear not configured
Landing-flare/touchdown - Landing gear not configured
Landing-flare/touchdown - Nose over/nose down

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to retract the landing gear prior to a water landing. Contributing to the accident was the pilot's impairment due to medication.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft systems-Landing gear system-Gear extension and retract sys-Not used/operated - C
Personnel issues-Action/decision-Action-Forgotten action/omission-Pilot - C
Personnel issues-Physical-Impairment/incapacitation-Prescription medication-Pilot - F
Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Use of checklist-Pilot

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Commercial	Age:	64
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Multi-engine Sea; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane; Helicopter
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 23390 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	CESSNA	Registration:	N369E
Model/Series:	A185F	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	On file	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-D
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	GNR, 1401 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	None
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	Calm
Temperature:	20°C / 11°C	Visibility:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Rangeley, ME (8B0)	Destination:	Rockwood, ME

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Shawn Etcher	Adopted Date:	10/17/2011
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=76811		

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