



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	River Ranch, FL	Accident Number:	ERA12CA134
Date & Time:	01/02/2012, 1300 EST	Registration:	N171GS
Aircraft:	MAULE M-5-180C	Injuries:	3 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot stated that the flight was conducted in visual flight rule conditions, and when he arrived at the destination airport he noted no airplanes in the area. He said that he heard no radio communications to indicate the appropriate landing direction, saw no signs of wind direction as he approached the airport, and the airport's wind sock did not indicate a wind or direction. The pilot elected to land on runway 16. When the airplane touched down, an unexpected wind gust pushed the airplane right of the runway center line. The pilot tried to straighten the airplane; however, the left wing tip and the left horizontal stabilizer tip contacted the ground, sustaining substantial damage. The pilot stated that there were no preaccident mechanical malfunctions or failures that would have precluded normal operations.

Flight Events

Landing-flare/touchdown - Loss of control on ground
Landing-landing roll - Runway excursion
Landing-landing roll - 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 directional control after encountering a wind gust during landing.

Findings

Personnel issues-Action/decision-Action-Incorrect action performance-Pilot - C
Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Pilot - C
Environmental issues-Conditions/weather/phenomena-Wind-Gusts-Awareness of condition

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	63
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	1018 hours (Total, all aircraft), 488 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	MAULE	Registration:	N171GS
Model/Series:	M-5-180C	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	On file	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O&VO-360 SER
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	KBOW, 125 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 2500 ft agl
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots, 290°
Temperature:	19°C / 7°C	Visibility	15 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Indiantown, FL (X58)	Destination:	River Ranch, FL (ZRR)

Airport Information

Airport:	River Ranch (ZRR)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	16	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:	4950 ft / 75 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Jose Obregon	Adopted Date:	11/07/2012
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=82603		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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