



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Corona, NM	Accident Number:	CEN13CA336
Date & Time:	06/01/2013, 1800 MDT	Registration:	N62TW
Aircraft:	SCHEMPP-HIRTH VENTUS-2B	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot was ridge-soaring in his glider near a mountain peak in gusty wind conditions, when he was blown into trees. The glider sustained substantial damage to the airframe and wings. The pilot reported no mechanical problems with the glider. He said that he was unfamiliar with the terrain and the wind gusts and down-drafts were higher than he anticipated.

Flight Events

Maneuvering - Loss of control in flight

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain aircraft control while ridge-soaring in gusty wind conditions.

Findings

Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Pilot - C
Environmental issues-Conditions/weather/phenomena-Wind-Gusts-Response/compensation - F

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	63
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Single-engine
Flight Time:	4800 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1652 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	SCHEMPP-HIRTH	Registration:	N62TW
Model/Series:	VENTUS-2B	Engines:	0
Operator:	PAYNTER G FRANK	Engine Manufacturer:	
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:		Weather Information Source:	Unknown
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	
Temperature:		Visibility	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Moriarty, NM (0E0)	Destination:	Moriarty, NM (0E0)

Airport Information

Airport:	None	Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	N/A	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

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):	Leah D Yeager	Adopted Date:	08/13/2013
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=87151		

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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