



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Littleton, NC	Accident Number:	ERA16LA181
Date & Time:	04/24/2016, 1500 EDT	Registration:	N367FS
Aircraft:	MAULE M 7-235B	Injuries:	3 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The private pilot had owned the amphibious airplane for 3 weeks, and had performed about 30 water landings in the airplane. The pilot stated that, during takeoff on the accident flight, the airplane was veering "severely" to the left; however, he continued the takeoff. The flight was unremarkable, and the pilot returned to the lake to land the airplane. Upon touchdown, the airplane veered to the left, nosed over, and came to rest inverted. The passenger stated that the airplane bounced during the landing, and a witness stated that the airplane landed "hard" on the water, bounced about 10 ft into the air, then impacted the water again. Examination of the left float skin revealed signatures consistent with overstress failure. It is likely that the pilot's hard, bounced landing resulted in the failure of the left float skin.

Flight Events

Landing-flare/touchdown - Hard landing
Landing-landing roll - Loss of control on ground
Landing-landing roll - Nose over/nose down

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's improper landing flare, which resulted in a hard landing and subsequent damage to the left float.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Landing flare-Not attained/maintained - C
Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Pilot - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	58
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	1900 hours (Total, all aircraft), 25 hours (Total, this make and model), 1850 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 50 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 30 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	MAULE	Registration:	N367FS
Model/Series:	M 7-235B 235B	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	On file	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-540
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	AVC, 442 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	Calm / ,
Temperature:	20°C	Visibility	4 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Littleton, NC (NONE)	Destination:	Littleton, NC (NONE)

Airport Information

Airport:	Lake (NONE)	Runway Surface Type:	Water
Runway Used:	N/A	Runway Surface Condition:	Water--calm
Runway Length/Width:			

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
Latitude, Longitude:	36.479444, -77.923611 (est)		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Heidi Moats	Adopted Date:	05/01/2017
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=93156		

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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