



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Soldatna, AK	Accident Number:	GAA19CA343
Date & Time:	06/11/2019, 1030 AKD	Registration:	N61339
Aircraft:	Maule MX7	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Miscellaneous/other	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot was flying an airplane equipped with tundra tires. He reported that, while landing the airplane on water, he realized that he "was still on [the] wheels"; it was not equipped with floats. Water entered the flight deck, the pilot egressed, and the airplane sank. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the windscreen. The pilot reported that there were no mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

The pilot's attempt to land on water in an airplane that was not equipped with floats.

Findings

Aircraft

Personnel issues	Expectation/assumption - Pilot (Cause)
Environmental issues	Wet surface - Effect on operation (Cause)

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Miscellaneous/other (Defining event) Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
---------	--

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	72, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	BasicMed With Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	05/10/2019
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	06/22/2019
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 3000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 600 hours (Total, this make and model), 3000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Maule	Registration:	N61339
Model/Series:	MX7 180A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1994	Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Other	Serial Number:	20013C
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	06/07/2019, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2400 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	796.3 Hours as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-360-C4F
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	180 hp
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PASX, 113 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	4 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0256 UTC	Direction from Accident Site:	198°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	14 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	270°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.95 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	17° C / 8° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Soldatna, AK (L85)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Soldatna, AK (L85)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	AKD	Type of Airspace:	Class D

Airport Information

Airport:	Mackeys Lakes (L85)	Runway Surface Type:	Water
Airport Elevation:	175 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Water--choppy
Runway Used:	S	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3000 ft / 1000 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop; Traffic Pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	60.320278, -150.597222 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Michael A Hicks	Report Date:	04/13/2020
Additional Participating Persons:	David Longan; FAA; Juneau, AK		
Publish Date:	04/13/2020		
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=99640		

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.

The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).