



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Elfin Cove, AK	Accident Number:	GAA17CA332
Date & Time:	05/24/2017, 0830 ADT	Registration:	N1265U
Aircraft:	CESSNA 208	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Hard landing	Injuries:	8 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Scheduled		

Analysis

The pilot of the float-equipped airplane reported that, during a water landing, he "misread the size of the swell." He added that, immediately after touchdown, the airplane jumped a swell, which resulted in a tail-low hard landing.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident 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 failure to recognize the magnitude of the swell size during landing, which resulted in a tail-low hard water landing.

Findings

Personnel issues	Identification/recognition - Pilot (Cause)
Environmental issues	Choppy surface - Effect on operation (Cause)

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Hard landing (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	45, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	5-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Without Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	05/01/2017
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	05/12/2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 5142 hours (Total, all aircraft), 150 hours (Total, this make and model), 5000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 100 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 87 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	CESSNA	Registration:	N1265U
Model/Series:	208 A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2004	Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	20800375
Landing Gear Type:	Amphibian;	Seats:	8
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	05/09/2017, AAIP	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	8360 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Turbo Prop
Airframe Total Time:	2338.2 Hours at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Honeywell
ELT:	C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	TPE 331-12-JR
Registered Owner:	KALININ PARTNERS LLC.	Rated Power:	900 hp
Operator:	KALININ PARTNERS LLC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Commuter Air Carrier (135); On-demand Air Taxi (135)
Operator Does Business As:	Alaska Seaplanes	Operator Designator Code:	P9KA

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PAEL, 20 ft msl	Observation Time:	1652 UTC
Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles	Direction from Accident Site:	145°
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Temperature/Dew Point:	8° C / 4° C
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 2200 ft agl	Visibility	15 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	9 knots, 300°	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	30.26 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Juneau, AK (PAJN)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Company VFR
Destination:	Elfin Cove, AK (ELV)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	0800 AKD	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	ELFIN COVE (ELV)	Runway Surface Type:	Water
Airport Elevation:	0 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Water--choppy
Runway Used:	N/A	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop; Straight-in

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	7 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	8 None	Latitude, Longitude:	58.195278, -136.348333 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Jackie L Vanover	Adopted Date:	01/23/2018
Additional Participating Persons:	Dwayne Edwards; FAA; Juneau, AK		
Publish Date:	01/23/2018		
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=95352		

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