

NOVEMBER ACCIDENT & INCIDENT SUMMARY

By Jim Timm

The following are the reports of aviation accidents, and incidents that have occurred in Arizona from late October, thru November. APA will be using this detailed information to develop safety programs, briefings, and posters/flyers that would help pilots learn from the mistakes being made by others, and take the action necessary to prevent them from having similar occurrences.

Aviation safety for this reporting period was good because the number of accidents/Incidents was down slightly from the previous reporting period, and most importantly, none of the accidents reported were very severe and there was no loss of life. I only hope we can maintain this trend. So please continue to fly safe.

The last accident covered in last month's report was a serious accident, and there was very little information available when the APA report was written. Since then, a detailed NTSB Preliminary report has been released, and the details of that report are at the beginning of this report.

The following is the information obtained from the ASN, FAA, NTSB, and from APA members.

DATE: October 17, 2021
Info. Source: APA, NTSB
Location: Arivaca
Type: Rockwell 112B
Injuries: 1 Fatality

CONTROLLED FLIGHT INTO TERRAIN

Per the NTSB, on October 17, 2021, about 1402 MST, a Rockwell International, 112B airplane was destroyed when it was involved in an accident near Three Points, Arizona and the pilot was fatally injured. The airplane was operated by the pilot as a Part 91 personal flight.

Recorded Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast (ADS-B) data provided by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) showed that the airplane departed from runway 24L at Ryan Field (RYN), Tucson, about 1339 MST, ascended to 4,500 ft mean sea level (msl) and traveled southwest for about 5 minutes before conducting multiple 180 degree turns over a road. The data showed the airplane continue to the southwest before making a wide right turn followed by a left turn. The data showed 2 lazy-eight type maneuvers before heading southwest. The data showed that the airplane's airspeed slowed to about 50 mph and entered a descending left turn. The airplane continued in a descending left turn until ADS-B contact was lost at 1402 MST, at an altitude of 3,250 ft msl (250 ft agl).

Concerned friends of the pilot contacted local authorities after the airplane was overdue at its planned destination. The airplane wreckage was found later that evening by local law enforcement.

A friend of the pilot reported that the pilot was preparing for an upcoming biannual flight review scheduled for the following week.

A post accident examination of the accident site revealed that the airplane impacted terrain in a flat, wings level attitude. The airplane remained mostly intact but was consumed by post-impact fire. Broken plexiglass surrounded the main wreckage. All the airplane's flight controls were found at the accident site and flight control cable continuity was established to the cabin area.

THE FOLLOWING ACCIDENTS & INCIDENTS OCURED IN THE REPORTING PERIOD

Date: October 16, 2021
Info. Source: NTSB, FAA
Location: Tucson
Type: Eurocopter AS350 B3
Injuries: 4 uninjured

LANDING ACCIDENT

The NTSB report only stated it was a Part 135 Air Medical flight, and 3 crew were uninjured, and 1 passenger was uninjured. The aircraft damage was determined to be substantial.

The FAA report stated the helicopter was landing at the Tucson Medical Center (A37), and experienced a tail rotor strike during landing, resulting in substantial damage.

Date: October 22, 2021
Info. Source: FAA
Location: Gila River Indian Reservation
Type: CESSNA 206
Injuries: 1 Uninjured

INFLIGHT ENGINE FAILURE

Subsequent to an inflight engine failure, the pilot made a landing on an Indian Reservation road. Any damage incurred was unavailable.

Date: October 27, 2021
Info. Source: FAA
Location: Springerville (JTC)
Type: Rockwell 112TC
Injuries: 1 Uninjured

GEAR UP LANDING

The Rockwell 112TC made a gear up landing on runway 3 at the Springerville Airport. The extent of damage was unknown.

Date: November 10, 2021
Info. Source: FAA
Location: Eloy (E60)
Type: Bell B-407 Helicopter
Injuries: 1 Uninjured

TETHER CAUGHT IN ROTOR

The Bell B-407 skid caught a paraglider tether which then got wound up on the rotor. The helicopter made a forced landing in the desert eight miles east-southeast of E60. There was minor damage to the skid only.

Date: November 15, 2021
Info. Source: ASN, APA
Location: Laveen
Type: Sonex Waix B
Injuries: 1 Minor Injury

INFLIGHT ENGINE FAILURE

An experimental Sonex Waix B, kit built by Lou Pappas, sustained substantial damage subsequent to a nose over during the forced landing to desert terrain following a loss of engine power over Maricopa County near Hangar Haciendas Airport (AZ90), Laveen. The sole pilot onboard the single engine airplane received minor injuries. The aircraft had departed Glendale Airport with a destination of Hangar Haciendas Airport.