

From: [Versaw, Charles B \(FAA\)](#)
To: [Ward, Mark](#)
Subject: RE: N454FU accident - SXQ
Date: Monday, April 24, 2023 9:58:07 AM

[CAUTION] This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mark:

This is my initial info with the pilots statement. I have more pictures if necessary.

5 onboard – no injuries

Pilot contact info: Spencer Davis Audie [REDACTED]

His statement was:

His family flew from Wasilla to Polly creek to do some clamming. On his way back they wanted to stop at SXQ. He decided to drag the ski strip (RWY 25S) to see how deep the snow was as he did not want to land in the pavement (RWY 25) due to the excessive bush wheel tire wear that might happen when landing on dry pavement. The traffic cones were visible so he only thought the snow was not that deep. Upon touchdown the left wheel dug in followed by the right and the aircraft decelerated and then flipped over. He then turned off the fuel selectors and then proceeded to evacuate his family out of the aircraft.

Inspector Versaw (me) asked if there were any pre existing mechanical problems with the aircraft and he said no. I asked if he had received a preflight briefing and he was self-briefed on his iPad/Foreflight. No NOTAMS were issued as to the condition of the runway. Inspector estimates that the loose snow was 8-12 inches deep on top of packed snow/ice RWY 25S and over 36 inches deep on either side of the runway. All snow on and around the attempted landing runway was very heavy, loose and had a granular consistency due to warm temperatures and direct sunlight that day. Initial wheel track marks were 237 feet before the aircraft came to rest inverted.

If you need more, or clarification please let me know.

I have not started the ADQA on this one yet.

Charles (Chip) Versaw

Federal Aviation Administration
Principal Operations Inspector (POI)
Juneau Flight Standards District Office
Remotely Sited, Kenai Peninsula
Cell [REDACTED]
