

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Office of Aviation Safety
Washington, D.C. 20594

July 2nd, 2019

Global Positioning System

Factual Report
By Adam M. Gerhardt

1. EVENT DETAILS

Location: Fletcher, North Carolina
Date: June 26th, 2019
Aircraft: Rans S-6S
Registration: N661PF
Operator: Individual
NTSB Number: ERA19FA200

2. SUMMARY

On June 26th, 2019, about 1030 eastern daylight time, a Rans S-6S, N661PF, was destroyed when it impacted terrain near the Six Oaks Private Airport in Fletcher, North Carolina. The commercial pilot and flight instructor were fatally injured. The airplane was registered to and operated by PF Flyers Inc. under the provisions of Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 as a personal flight. Day visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan was filed for the local flight.

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

The following device was downloaded:

Device: Garmin GPS Map 496
Serial Number: 19706891

3.1. Data Recovery

The device showed little damage and was downloaded normally using the manufacturer's software. Figures 1 and 2 show the front and back of the device.



Figure 1: Front of GPS Unit



Figure 2: Back of GPS Unit

3.2. Data Description

The data extracted included 17 track logs. The accident flight track log was identified as the track log that began on June 26th, 2019, 9:55:25. The track logged continued to 10:28:38, recording 230 data points.

3.3. TABULAR DATA

Tabular data are included as Attachment 1. This attachment is provided in electronic comma-delimited (.CSV) format.

3.4. DATA DESCRIPTION

The following figures are excerpts from the downloaded data exported to Google Earth.

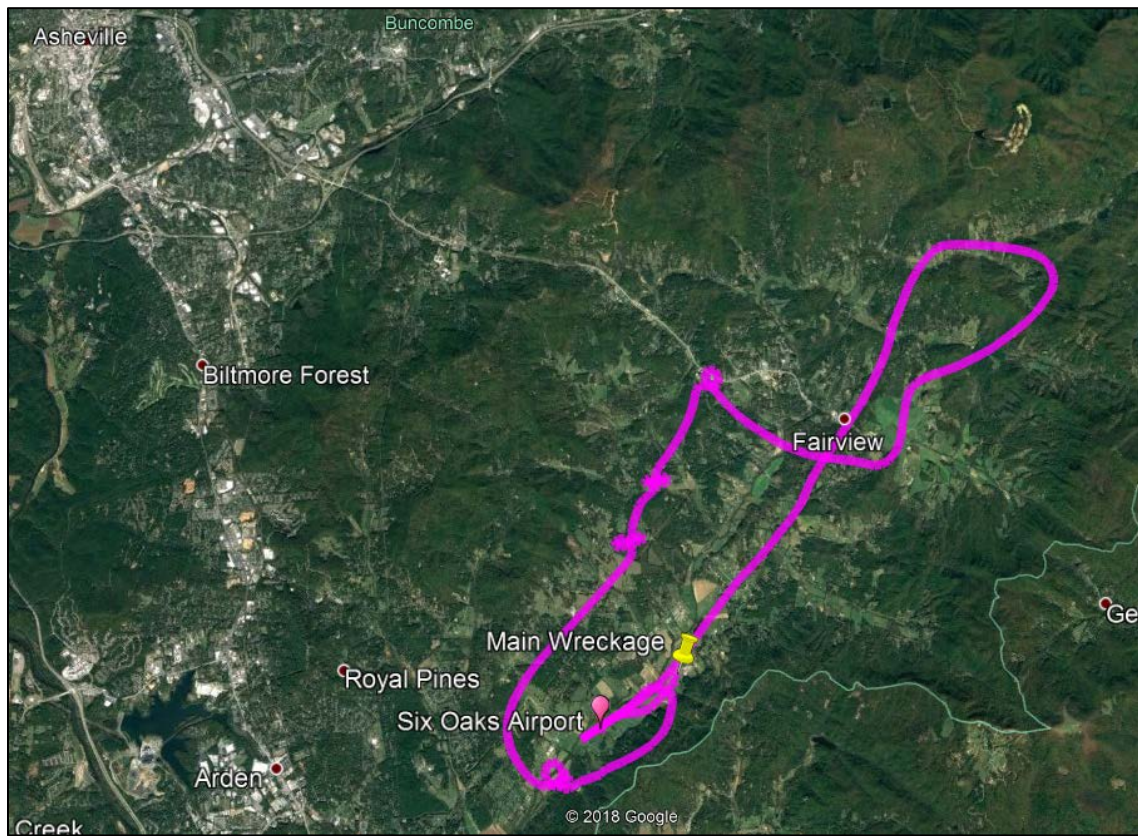


Figure 3: Complete overview of flight track

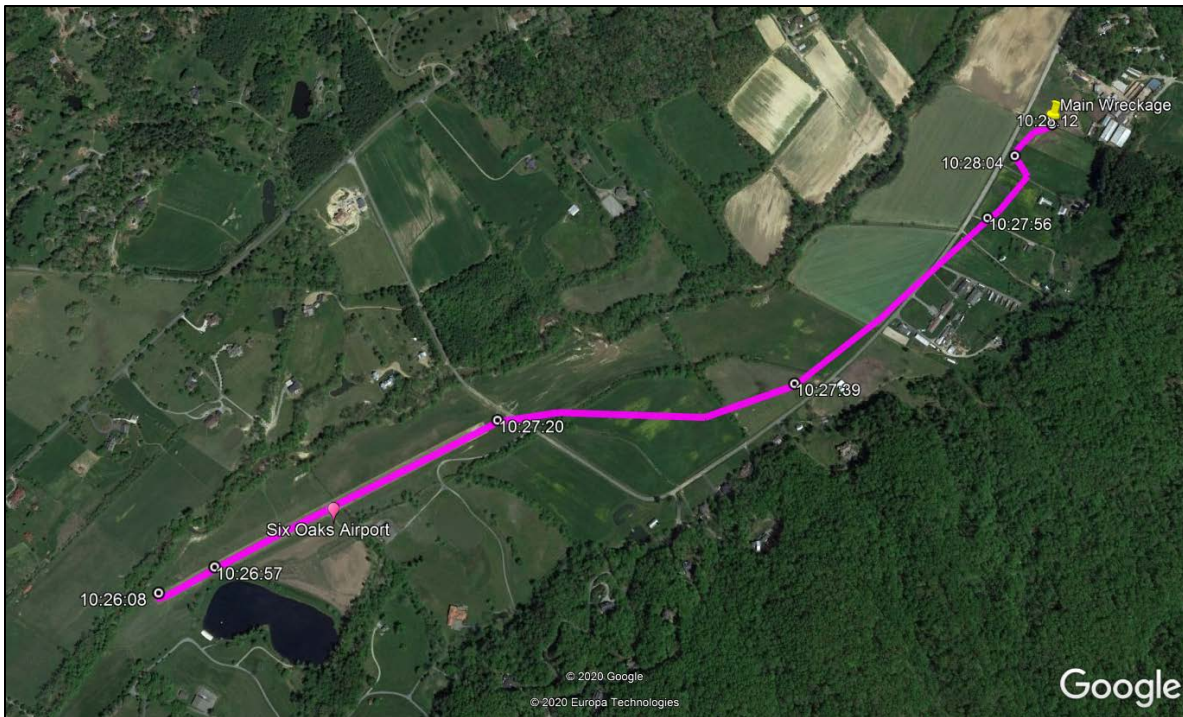


Figure 4: Overhead view of flight track from final takeoff (final 2:30)

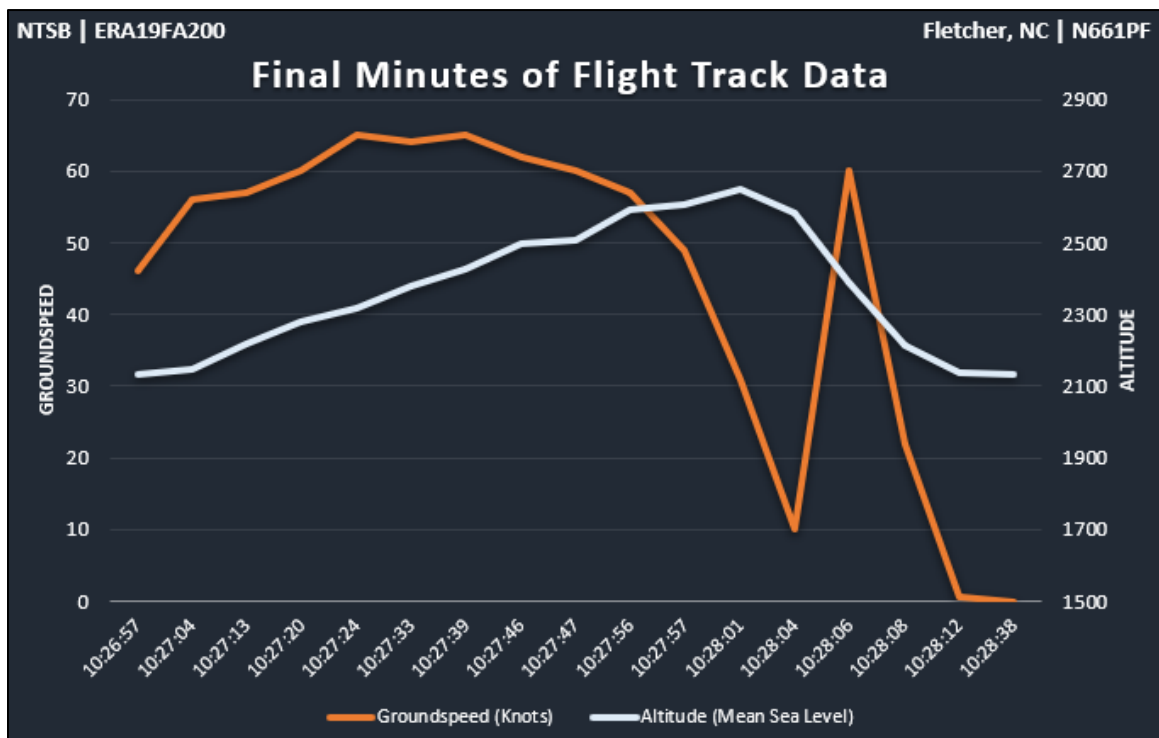


Figure 5: Chart of groundspeed and altitude data for the final takeoff