



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Santa Barbara, CA	<b>Accident Number:</b>	WPR20LA319
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	September 27, 2020, 07:03 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N157RC
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CESSNA T182	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>			

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On September 27, 2020, at 0703 Pacific daylight time, a Cessna T182T airplane, N157RC, sustained substantial damage when it was involved in an accident near Santa Barbara, California. The pilot, the sole occupant, was fatally injured. The airplane was operated by the pilot as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)* Part 91 personal cross-country flight.

The flight departed Santa Barbara Municipal Airport (SBA), Santa Barbara, California, for a cross-country flight to the Truckee-Tahoe Airport (TRK), Truckee, California.

According to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the airplane departed runway 15L, established radio contact with Los Angeles Center departure control and turned a heading of 255 degrees with a climb to 8,000 ft above ground level (agl). The airplane then turned to the north, followed by a turn to the east and a rapid descent. Radio and radar contact were lost, and an alert notification was issued by the FAA. Wreckage and an oil slick were located approximately 2 miles from SBA in the Pacific Ocean by the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department. There were no mayday calls received by ATC from the pilot.

Reported weather at SBA at the time of the accident was overcast skies at 900 ft and visibility 7 miles.

Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department requested assistance from Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Dive unit to assist in the search for the pilot and airplane. The estimated depth of the wreckage was 200 ft. On Thursday, October 1, 2020, the pilot, and airplane were located and recovered.

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	CESSNA	<b>Registration:</b>	N157RC
<b>Model/Series:</b>	T182 T	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No		
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>			

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	VMC	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	OXR,44 ft msl	<b>Observation Time:</b>	06:51 Local
<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	34 Nautical Miles	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	-7.2° C /-8.3° C
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	4 knots / , 60°
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Overcast / 1400 ft AGL	<b>Visibility:</b>	7 miles
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29.87 inches Hg	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	IFR
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Santa Barbara, CA	<b>Destination:</b>	Truckee, CA (TRK)

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	34.388,-119.84 (est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Cornejo, Tealeye
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Homayoun Jandaghi; Federal Aviation Administration; Van Nuys, CA Jennifer Barclay; Textron Aviation; Wichita, KS
<b>Note:</b>	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.