

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
198404504**

**Robinson R22**

**7 September 1984**

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**NOTE: All air safety occurrences reported to the ATSB are categorised and recorded. For a detailed explanation on Category definitions please refer to the ATSB website at [www.atsb.gov.au](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

**Occurrence Number:** 198404504

**Occurrence Type:** Accident

**Location:** 12 km NNW Mt Farquhar WA

**Date:** 7 September 1984

**Time:** N/K

**Highest Injury Level:** Serious

**Injuries:**

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	1	0	0
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Aircraft Details:** Robinson R22

**Registration:** VH-UXK

**Serial Number:**

**Operation Type:** Cattle Mustering

**Damage Level:** Destroyed

**Departure Point:** Mt Farquhar WA

**Departure Time:** N/K

**Destination:** Mt Farquhar WA

**Approved for Release:** 20th March, 1985

**Circumstances:**

The pilot was flying the helicopter along a ridge line checking a gully for cattle, when the engine suffered a substantial loss of power. The pilot initiated an autorotational descent as the engine failed completely. The helicopter landed heavily in the base of the gully. The pilot was aware that there was little fuel remaining in the tank. However he elected to continue and ensure the security of the mob before last light, so that additional herding would not be necessary the next day. The helicopter was being operated at a low height and airspeed, over unsuitable terrain at the time the fuel was exhausted.