

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199000596**

Robinson R22 Beta

23 September 1990

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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.

This accident was not formally investigated by the Bureau.

Occurrence Number: 199000596

Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: Snowdrop Creek NT (130 km NE Katherine)

Date: 23 September 1990

Time: N/K

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	1
Total	0	0	0	2

Aircraft Details: Robinson R22 Beta

Registration: VH-HBH

Serial Number: 557

Operation Type: Aerial Work

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Eva Valley NT

Departure Time: N/K

Destination: Eva Valley NT

Approved for Release: 5th April 1991

Circumstances:

The pilot reported that he felt a "kick" in the tail rotor which disappeared immediately. A short time later, the anomaly returned and the pilot elected to carry out a precautionary landing. However, the engine suddenly failed and the pilot had to use most of the rotor inertia to reach a suitable landing area. The following attempt to cushion the landing with the use of collective input was ineffective and a heavy landing ensued. An inspection of the aircraft by the operator revealed traces of water in the carburettor fuel bowl and this is believed to have caused the engine failure. No other defects or anomalies were reported.