

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199702815**

**Robinson Helicopter Co
R22**

11 August 1997

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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.

Occurrence Number: 199702815 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: 5km ENE Gamboola, (ALA)
State: QLD **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Monday 11 August 1997
Time: 1630 hours **Time Zone** EST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Robinson Helicopter Co
Aircraft Model: R22 BETA
Aircraft Registration: VH-JNN **Serial Number:** 1502
Type of Operation: Non-commercial Aerial Mustering
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Gamboola QLD
Departure Time: 1500 EST
Destination: Gamboola QLD

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on	
		Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	4571.6	4654

Approved for Release: Thursday, September 4, 1997

Circumstances

The pilot was moving the helicopter in an attempt to prevent cattle from crossing a water channel. During an attempt to reduce airspeed quickly he flared with a 15 kt tailwind, resulting in the main rotor overpitching. The helicopter was levelled but one skid entered water adjacent to the edge of the stream, and the other skid landed on the bank. The skid in the water sank into the sandy bottom and the helicopter slowly rolled on to its side. Considerable damage was caused to the rotor blades and airframe when the blades contacted the water.

An emergency locator transmitter was carried but did not activate during the impact sequence.

