

Alaska Air Crash Investigation

6 x 60'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. Forest Flight Down

The NTSB Go Team races to Soldotna to hitch a ride with Alaska State Troopers, who are en route to remote stretch of wilderness where a de Havilland DHC3 Otter operated by an Alaska air taxi crashed in a fiery inferno. The plane was en route to a remote fishing lodge in the Kenai Peninsula when contact was lost with the pilot. The NTSB believe the pilot misjudged the tree line and clipped the wings en route to landing, which caused the plane to crash. Extra fuel onboard contributed to the fiery inferno.

2. Lost Over The Inlet

The NTSB Go Team arrives to Tikchik Lake near Bristol Bay where a small floatplane has crashed. A hunting guide and hunter, who were waiting for the plane, watched it flip and sink with no one getting out. The NTSB Go Team investigates, believing it may have landed hard and caught a wing in the water due to the water's smooth surface. Glassy water landings are one of the most difficult landings you can make in an amphibious aircraft. Over on Thunder Mountain in Southeast Alaska, a precarious scene in which a wrecked seaplane sits suspended in the trees, where it crashed the night before. The small flight company reported the plane missing when they lost contact with the pilot during a violent storm, and an emergency locator transmitter alerted the U.S. Coast Guard, which located the wreckage and contacted Alaska State Troopers and the NTSB.

3. Trapper Creek Tragedy

A deadly plane crash kills eight skydivers near Denali and is the next investigation for the NTSB Go Team. They have their work cut out for them. The investigation could take weeks because the remains of the Cessna 441 kit aircraft are scattered over a large area of forest. Meanwhile, competitive fishing can bring in a lot of money, for both fishermen and pilots. With many planes overloaded, it doesn't take long for the NTSB Go Team to respond to a downed plane that crashed in the frigid ocean of the North Pacific.

4. Engine Out in Mid Air

The NTSB Go Team is launched after learning two pilots are killed when a faulty Cessna 208 Caravan crashed southeast of Bethel while on a routine training flight. Later, four people are killed and six survive after a charter flight slams into the Yukon River. The NTSB hears of the crash

from the first responders, who received a call from a mobile phone from one of the passengers in the downed plane. The NTSB Go Team races to the scene, but heavy fog interrupts their trip.

5. Plane Down in the Tundra

The NTSB Go Team depart for Port Alsworth, where a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service plane violently crashed into Lake Clark after takeoff. An eyewitness reports the plane may have been traveling too fast. Meanwhile, the NTSB Go Team rushes to a fatal airplane crash on a mountain glacier. Was it weather induced or was the twin propeller Beechcraft flying too low when it clamed into the ice?

6. Stalled Over The Highway

Untamed terrain and dangerous beauty draw people to Alaska from all walks of life. But when the weather turns for the worst, and a pilot refuses to turn back, the highly skilled NTSB Go Team responds to yet another deadly crash. Extended daylight hours in the "Land of the Midnight Sun" also means flying and more activity for the NTSB Go Team who are used to the Alaskan wilderness. But when investigators get a call about a helicopter crash deep in the Wrangell Mountains, there's nothing routine about their return to the wild.