



Aviation Investigation Preliminary Report

Location:	De Kalb, TX	Accident Number:	CEN23LA130
Date & Time:	March 11, 2023, 15:30 Local	Registration:	N4164T
Aircraft:	ROBINSON HELICOPTER R44	Injuries:	1 Serious, 3 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Aerial observation		

On March 11, 2023, about 1530 central standard time, a Robinson R-44 helicopter, N4164T, was substantially damaged when it was involved in an accident near Dekalb, Texas. The pilot and 2 passengers were not injured; a third passenger was seriously injured. The helicopter was operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 aerial observation flight.

The pilot was conducting a feral hog hunt flight and was attempting to push a group of hogs into an open field when the rotor speed began to decay. He lowered the collective but was unable to recover. The helicopter contacted a muddy field and rolled over. The fuselage and tailboom were damaged as a result of the impact resulting substantial damage to the helicopter.

An examination of the helicopter is planned once it is recovered from the field.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	ROBINSON HELICOPTER	Registration:	N4164T
Model/Series:	R44	Aircraft Category:	Helicopter
Amateur Built:			
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Designator Code:	N/A		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	VMC	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KTXK,390 ft msl	Observation Time:	15:53 Local
Distance from Accident Site:	31 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	22°C /17°C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 2000 ft AGL	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots / 0 knots, 190°
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 2700 ft AGL	Visibility:	9 miles
Altimeter Setting:	29.62 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Departure Point:	Idaville, OK (PVT)	Destination:	Idaville, OK (PVT)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Serious, 2 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious, 3 None	Latitude, Longitude:	33.508056,-94.616388 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Sorensen, Timothy
Additional Participating Persons:	Jimenez Perez; FAA Flight Standards; Irving, TX
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.