



NTSB National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Aviation Safety

**Redwood Valley, California
December 23, 2003**

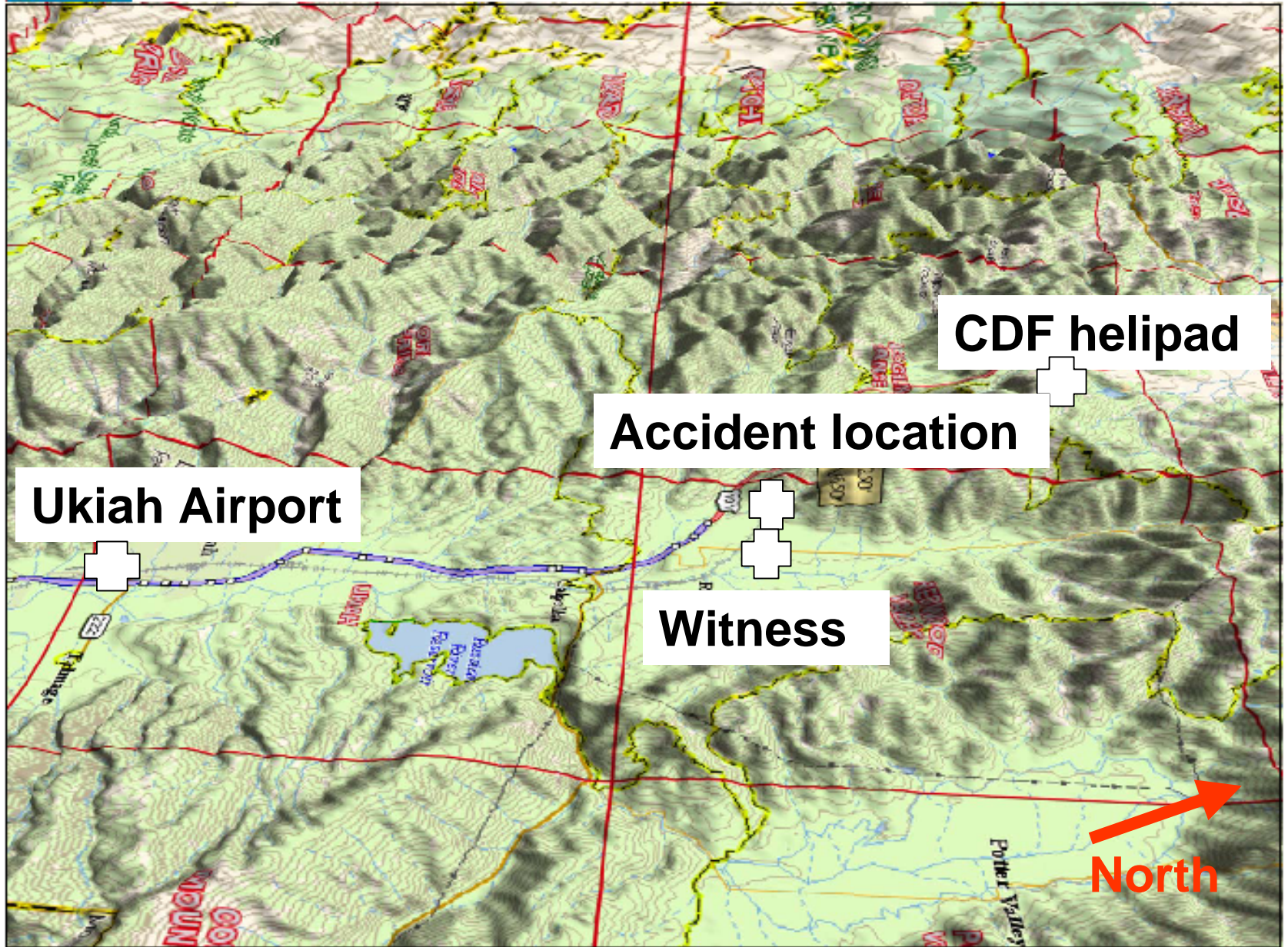


Timeline

- 1839: call for transport received
- 1900: departed home base
- 1920: advised of inclement weather
- 1922: landed at Ukiah Airport and cancelled IFR flight plan

Timeline (Con't)

- 1925: departed Ukiah Airport under visual flight rules
- 1928: contacted CDF of attempt to reach helipad
- 1931: notified CDF of return to Ukiah Airport



CDF helipad

Accident location

Ukiah Airport

Witness

North



Accident location

Part 91 Flight

- No patients on board
- Flight nurse and paramedic onboard
- Company policy requires all crewmembers to actively participate
- Decision to depart in poor weather left solely to pilot
- Weather deteriorated below VFR minimums

Other Issues

- No aviation-specific dispatcher
- No flight risk evaluation program



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