Man killed in gliding accident at Chesney Vale, in Victoria's north-east

Updated 12 minutes ago Fri 2 Jan 2015, 6:59pm

Photo: The wreckage of a glider was removed from the scene of the crash near Benalla. (ABC News: Stephanie Anderson)

A 71-year-old man has died in a gliding accident in Chesney Vale, near Benalla, in north-east Victoria.

Victoria Police said the glider crashed into a paddock on Lake Mokoan Road just before 2:00pm (AEDT).

The man had taken off from Benalla Airfield prior to the crash, police said.

Locals reported seeing the glider flying low and slow before it nosedived into the paddock.

The damaged aircraft was taken to the Benalla police station and will be inspected for mechanical problems.

Acting Senior Sergeant Harry Verbaken said a post mortem would be conducted to see if the victim had any underlying medical problems.

"It will be thoroughly investigated," he said.

"We've got to look at every possible contributing factor and rule it in or rule it out."

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau has been notified of the crash and police will prepare a report for the coroner.