



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Mackinac Island, Michigan	Accident Number:	GAA19CA520
Date & Time:	September 2, 2019, 12:05 Local	Registration:	N31934
Aircraft:	Piper PA32RT	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	6 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that, while landing, the airplane encountered a sudden crosswind and drifted left. The airplane bounced on touchdown and then veered left, exited the runway, impacted a runway light, traveled through a ditch, and the main landing gear collapsed.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage and the right wing.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

The airport's automated weather observation station reported that, about the time of the accident, the wind was from 360° at 11 knots. The pilot was landing the airplane on runway 26.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's failure to maintain directional control during landing with a crosswind, which resulted in a runway excursion and impact with a runway light.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	Crosswind - Effect on operation
Environmental issues	Runway/taxi/approach light - Effect on operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Other weather encounter
Landing	Abnormal runway contact
Landing	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing	Runway excursion
Landing	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
Landing	Landing gear collapse

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	39, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Lap only
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 16, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	November 13, 2018
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 147.5 hours (Total, all aircraft), 18 hours (Total, this make and model), 78.3 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 2.2 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2.2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1.6 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N31934
Model/Series:	PA32RT 300	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1978	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	32R-7885143
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 18, 2019 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3600 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	7248.1 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	West Michigan Flying Club	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:	West Michigan Flying Club	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KMCD,740 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:15 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	90°
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 2700 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	11 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	360°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.05 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	19°C / 14°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Muskegon, MI (MKG)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	Mackinac Island, MI (MCD)	Type of Clearance:	VFR;VFR flight following
Departure Time:	10:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	Mackinac Island MCD	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	741 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	26	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3501 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	5 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	6 None	Latitude, Longitude:	45.865001,-84.637222(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Gutierrez, Eric
Additional Participating Persons:	Michael W Matthews; FAA; Grand Rapids, MI
Original Publish Date:	February 11, 2020
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=100186

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