



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: St Anthony, Idaho Accident Number: WPR20CA231

Date & Time: June 22, 2020, 21:00 Local Registration: N338RW

Aircraft: CHAD LEWIS KITFOX SUPER SPORT Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

#### **Analysis**

The tailwheel-equipped airplane veered to the right and exited the side of the runway into an alfalfa field during an attempted takeoff. The airplane subsequently went through the airport perimeter fence, nosed over, and came to rest inverted. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the lower fuselage and left wing. The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

#### **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 takeoff, which resulted in a runway excursion, contact with the airport perimeter fence, and subsequent nose over.

#### **Findings**

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

## **Factual Information**

## **History of Flight**

Takeoff Loss of control on ground (Defining event)	
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#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	56,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Unknown
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	July 2, 2020
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	August 2, 2018
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 5233 hours (Total, all aircraft), 185 hours (Total, this make and model), 31 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 18 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

## **Passenger Information**

Certificate:		Age:	Male
Airplane Rating(s):		Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):		Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:		Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:			

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## **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

CHAD LEWIS	Registration:	N338RW
KITFOX SUPER SPORT	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
2013	Amateur Built:	Yes
Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	KA09119159
Tailwheel	Seats:	2
February 26, 2020 Continuous airworthiness	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1550 lbs
49 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
309 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotax
Installed, activated	Engine Model/Series:	912 ULS
BUSHWHACKED LLC	Rated Power:	100 Horsepower
BUSHWHACKED LLC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
	KITFOX SUPER SPORT  2013  Experimental (Special)  Tailwheel  February 26, 2020 Continuous airworthiness  49 Hrs  309 Hrs at time of accident Installed, activated  BUSHWHACKED LLC	KITFOX SUPER SPORT  Aircraft Category:  Amateur Built:  Experimental (Special)  Serial Number:  Tailwheel  Seats:  February 26, 2020 Continuous airworthiness  49 Hrs  Engines:  309 Hrs at time of accident  Installed, activated  BUSHWHACKED LLC  BUSHWHACKED LLC  Operating Certificate(s)

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Dawn
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KRXE,4862 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	9 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	08:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	217°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	130°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.06 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	26°C / 9°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	St Anthony, ID (U12)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	St Anthony, ID (U12)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	20:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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## **Airport Information**

Airport:	Stanford Field U12	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	4966 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
Runway Used:	22	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4500 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	43.946666,-111.692222(est)

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Nepomuceno, Eleazar
Additional Participating Persons:	Robert Williams; FAA; Salt Lake City, UT
Original Publish Date:	January 29, 2021
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=101648

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 *United States Code* section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 *United States Code* section 1154(b) is available here.

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