



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Susanville, California	<b>Accident Number:</b>	WPR20CA275
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	August 1, 2020, 12:00 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N60934
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Cessna A185	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of control on ground	<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel equipped airplane reported that, the winds at the time of takeoff were about 17 mph from the east. After he departed a runway from the southeast, the airplane weathervaned into the wind and was pushed to the left side of the runway. The pilot quickly corrected the movement, but in doing so the airplane's right main landing gear impacted the runway surface hard. Seconds later after he departed, the pilot flew low over the runway for ground observers to inspect the landing gear, but they reported no abnormalities. The pilot returned to the departure runway, but shortly after landing, the right main landing gear separated. The right wing was substantially damaged.

The pilot reported no mechanical anomalies that could 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 with a tailwind, which resulted in a subsequent collapse of the right main landing gear.

## Findings

<b>Personnel issues</b>	Aircraft control - Pilot
<b>Aircraft</b>	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
<b>Environmental issues</b>	Tailwind - Effect on operation

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

Takeoff	Attempted remediation/recovery
Takeoff	Other weather encounter
Takeoff	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing	Collision during takeoff/land
Landing	Part(s) separation from AC

### Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	76,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	January 29, 2019
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	February 12, 2020
Flight Time:	9889 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3111 hours (Total, this make and model)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Cessna	<b>Registration:</b>	N60934
<b>Model/Series:</b>	A185 F	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	1980	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	18504079
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	January 16, 2020 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2600 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	1391 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	3111 Hrs as of last inspection	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Continental
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	IO-550D3B
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	On file	<b>Rated Power:</b>	300 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	4149 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	18 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	11:55 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	180°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	9 knots / None	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	240°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.14 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	32°C / -14°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Yuba City, CA (O52 )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Susanville, CA (1Q2 )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	11:00 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class E

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Spaulding 1Q2	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	5115 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	16	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	4600 ft / 50 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop;Traffic pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	2 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	40.650276,-120.768608

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Stein, Stephen
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Ronald Green; Federal Aviation Administration; Reno, NV
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	May 6, 2021
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class 4</a>
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=101819">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=101819</a>

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