

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Cantwell, Alaska Accident Number: CEN22LA373

Date & Time: August 3, 2022, 20:00 Local Registration: N9211T

Aircraft: Cessna 180C Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Nose over/nose down **Injuries:** 3 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot reported that during a local personal flight, he decided to make an off-airport landing onto a gravel runway. Although the touchdown in the tailwheel-equipped airplane was uneventful, the pilot applied hard braking in order to minimize the landing roll on the rough terrain. As the airplane began to slow it nosed over coming to rest on its back. Both of the airplane's wings, the fuselage and the vertical stabilizer and rudder sustained substantial damage. 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 excessive brake application during the landing roll that resulted in a nose over.

Findings

Personnel issues	Knowledge of geographic area - Pilot	
Aircraft	Braking capability - Capability exceeded	
Environmental issues	Rough terrain - Effect on equipment	

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Abnormal runway contact
Landing-landing roll	Nose over/nose down (Defining event)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	34,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-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:	
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	April 25, 2022
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	April 27, 2022
Flight Time:	650 hours (Total, all aircraft), 153 hours (Total, this make and model), 578 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 99 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 56 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N9211T
Model/Series:	180C	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1960	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	50711
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	3
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 2, 2021 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2650 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	5067.3 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-470L
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	230 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	6 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	310°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	AK06, AK (AK06)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Company VFR
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	19:20 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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Airport Information

Airport:	No ID N/A	Runway Surface Type:	Gravel
Airport Elevation:	0 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry;Rough
Runway Used:	N/A	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	0 ft / 0 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Valley/terrain following

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:		Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	3 None	Latitude, Longitude:	63.14675,-149.13356(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Otterstrom, Kevin
Additional Participating Persons:	Brad Sipperley; FAA Inspector; Fairbanks, AK
Original Publish Date:	October 6, 2022
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=105696

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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