



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Williamston, North Carolina	Accident Number:	ERA24LA025
Date & Time:	October 28, 2023, 17:25 Local	Registration:	N19YM
Aircraft:	Cessna 305	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Wildlife encounter (non-bird)	Injuries:	2 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

Just prior to touch down, the pilot saw a deer to his left. As the airplane settled, he corrected to the right to avoid the deer but over-corrected and could not straighten the airplane’s path. He added full power to attempt a go-around maneuver; however, the airplane exited the right side of the runway and collided with a drainage culvert. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage. 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:

Loss of directional control to avoid a deer during landing, which resulted in a runway excursion and collision with a culvert.

Findings

Environmental issues	Animal(s)/bird(s) - Ability to respond/compensate
Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Wildlife encounter (non-bird) (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Flight instructor	Age:	66, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	September 6, 2023
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	May 12, 2022
Flight Time:	12000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1500 hours (Total, this make and model), 10500 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 40 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Passenger Information

Certificate:		Age:	Female
Airplane Rating(s):		Seat Occupied:	Rear
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):		Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:		Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:			

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N19YM
Model/Series:	305 A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1952	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Utility	Serial Number:	22827
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 8, 2023 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	15 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	6400 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental Motors
ELT:	C91 installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-470-11
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:	PVG,23 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	66 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	17:55 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	32°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	Unknown / Unknown
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	Unknown / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.09 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	23°C / 18°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Southern Pines, NC (SOP)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Williamston, NC	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	16:10 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	MARTIN COUNTY MCZ	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	74 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	03	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5000 ft / 70 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Straight-in

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	35.862193,-77.178201(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Spencer, Lynn
Additional Participating Persons:	Patricia Chriscoe; FAA/FSDO; Greensboro, NC
Original Publish Date:	December 13, 2023
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=193329

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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](#).