

# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location:	ANIAK, Alaska		Accident Number:	ANC95LA002
Date & Time:	October 1, 1994, 15:0	00 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N2707X
Aircraft:	CESSNA	180	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:			Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General avia	tion - Personal		

### **Analysis**

THE FLIGHT WAS DEPARTING AN AIRSTRIP THAT WAS IN POOR CONDITION. THE PILOT STATED THE LEFT MAIN GEAR 'SLIPPED' INTO A DEPRESSION IN THE RUNWAY'S SURFACE DURING THE TAKEOFF ROLL. THE AIRPLANE CONTINUED TO SLIP OFF THE RUNWAY UNTIL THE LEFT WHEEL STRUCK THE WILLOWS GROWING ON THE RUNWAY'S EDGE. THE PILOT STATED IT WAS TOO LATE TO ABORT THE TAKEOFF AND THE AIRPLANE OVERRAN THE END OF THE RUNWAY.

## **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 PROPER RUNWAY ALIGNMENT DURING THE TAKEOFF ROLL. A FACTOR ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACCIDENT WAS THE ROUGH/UNEVEN CONDITION OF THE RUNWAY'S SURFACE.

### Findings

Occurrence #1: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings 1. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - ROUGH/UNEVEN 2. (C) PROPER ALIGNMENT - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND Occurrence #2: OVERRUN Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

### **Factual Information**

On October 1, 1994, at 1500 Alaska daylight time, a wheel equipped Cessna 180 airplane, N2707X, registered to Greg Wiren of Chicken, Alaska, and operated by the pilot, ran off an airstrip near Taylor Mountain located near Aniak, Alaska. The personal flight operating under 14 CFR Part 91, was departing the airstrip and the destination was McGrath, Alaska. No flight plan was filed and visual meteorological conditions prevailed. The pilot and his passenger were not injured and the airplane was substantially damaged.

According to the pilot, the airstrip was in poor condition with potholes and willows growing close to the edge. During the takeoff roll, when he lifted the airplane's tail, the left main wheel "slipped" into a depression on the runway. The left wheel continued to slip off the runway and into the willows on the runway's edge. He stated it was too late to abort the takeoff and the airplane ran off the end of the runway.

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial; Flight instructor; Private	Age:	43,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land; Multi- engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Expired	Last FAA Medical Exam:	September 3, 1992
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	14700 hours (Total, all aircraft), 15 hours (Total, this make and model), 14000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N2707X
Model/Series:	180 180	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18051507
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 14, 1994 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2550 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	50 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	6560 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-470-R
Registered Owner:	WIREN, GREGORY	Rated Power:	230 Horsepower
Operator:	HALL, WAYNE	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

# Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown	Visibility	2 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 3500 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	12 knots / 15 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	90°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	2°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	Light - None - Snow		
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	MCGRATH , AK (MCG )	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	15:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

### **Airport Information**

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Rough;Wet
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		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:	61.199302,-158.600082(est)

#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Kobelnyk, George		
Additional Participating Persons:	JOHN HALLINAN; ANCHORAGE , AK		
Original Publish Date:	June 29, 1995		
Last Revision Date:			
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>		
Note:			
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=2604		

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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 <u>here</u>.