



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	MINCHUMINA, Alaska	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ANC98LA053
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	May 25, 1998, 08:40 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N1199E
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Bellanca 8GCBC	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

## Analysis

The solo student was landing at a remote, gravel airstrip. He stated that he visually inspected the airport wind sock and determined the winds were 'light and variable', favoring runway 20. He stated that the approach was normal until he went below the adjacent tree line, and the rate of descent increased. He was unable to arrest the descent prior to touchdown, and the airplane hit hard and bounced twice. He was unable to maintain directional control, and the airplane turned 45 degrees from its original runway heading. He said that in an attempt to abort the landing, he added full power, and the airplane went off the right side of the runway. The left wing struck a stand of trees.

## 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 while landing. A factor associated with this accident was the pilot's inadequate recovery from a bounced landing.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: HARD LANDING  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

### Findings

1. (F) RECOVERY FROM BOUNCED LANDING - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ABORTED

Findings

2. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ABORTED

Findings

3. OBJECT - TREE(S)

## Factual Information

On May 25, 1998, about 0840 Alaska daylight time, a wheel equipped Bellanca 8GCBC airplane, N1199E, sustained substantial damage while landing at the Minchumina Airport, Minchumina, Alaska. The airplane was being operated as a visual flight rules (VFR) student cross country flight under Title 14 CFR Part 91 when the accident occurred. The solo student pilot was not injured. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and a VFR flight plan was filed. The flight originated at the Chena Marina Airport, Fairbanks, Alaska, about 0721.

During a telephone conversation with the National Transportation Safety Board investigator-in-charge, on May 27, the student pilot reported that, prior to landing, he looked at the airport wind sock and determined the winds were "light and variable", favoring runway 20. He stated that the approach was normal until he went below the adjacent tree line, and the rate of descent increased. He was unable to arrest the descent prior to touchdown, and the airplane hit hard and bounced twice. The pilot noted in his written statement that he was unable to maintain directional control, and the airplane turned 45 degrees from its original runway heading. The pilot stated that in an attempt to abort the landing, he added full power, and the airplane went off the right side of the runway. The left wing struck a stand of trees and received substantial damage.

The pilot stated that there were no preaccident mechanical anomalies with the airplane.

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Student	<b>Age:</b>	42, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Front
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	March 11, 1997
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	61 hours (Total, all aircraft), 61 hours (Total, this make and model)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Bellanca	<b>Registration:</b>	N1199E
<b>Model/Series:</b>	8GCBC 8GCBC	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	254-77
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	December 5, 1997 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2150 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	13 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	1436 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Lycoming
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-360-C1E
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	MICHAEL HELMBRECHT	<b>Rated Power:</b>	180 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>		<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>		<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>		<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	/	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	0°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	CHENA MARINA , AK (AK28)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	VFR
<b>Destination:</b>	MINCHUMINA , AK (MHM )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	07:21 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	MINCHUMINA MHM	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Gravel
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	684 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Wet
<b>Runway Used:</b>	20	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	4200 ft / 90 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Straight-in

## Wreckage and Impact Information

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

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Johnson, Clinton
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	MIKE K ALKANA (FAA); FAIRBANKS , AK
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	November 17, 1999
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=3142">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=3142</a>

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