



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Fairbanks, Alaska	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ANC08CA125
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	September 15, 2008, 20:00 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N1170H
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Aeronca 15AC	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Collision during takeoff/land	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The solo private pilot reported that he was landing at an off-airport site when the tailwheel assembly contacted a tree trunk, resulting in structural damage to the empennage. He indicated that there were no preaccident mechanical problems with the airplane.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's selection of unsuitable terrain for landing, resulting in an on-ground collision with a tree stump.

## Findings

<b>Personnel issues</b>	Decision making/judgment - Pilot
<b>Environmental issues</b>	Tree(s) - Effect on operation

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Landing-landing roll</b>	Collision during takeoff/land (Defining event)
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### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	45, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	341 hours (Total, all aircraft), 119 hours (Total, this make and model)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Aeronca	<b>Registration:</b>	N1170H
<b>Model/Series:</b>	15AC	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	15AC-183
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>		<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Lycoming
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-360
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	BECKMAN THOMAS J	<b>Rated Power:</b>	180 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	BECKMAN THOMAS J	<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>		<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>		<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>		<b>Visibility</b>	
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>		<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	/	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>		<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>			
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Cantwell, AK (PATW)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Fairbanks, AK	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>		<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	63.930278,-146.851943

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	LaBelle, James
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	John Edmonds; FAA, Anchorage FSDO; Anchorage, AK
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	December 11, 2008
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</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=69008">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=69008</a>

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