



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Palmer, Alaska	Accident Number:	ANC09CA089
Date & Time:	August 28, 2009, 14:33 Local	Registration:	N1301H
Aircraft:	Aeronca 15AC	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The private pilot was on a Title 14, CFR Part 91, personal cross-country flight which included landing at an off-airport site. The pilot said he made several low passes over the landing area prior to landing. He said he had plenty of room for a safe landing, but when it appeared the airplane was going to go off the end of the landing area he applied the brakes, and aimed for a brushy area. He reported that brush concealed a creek with a 3-foot bank. The airplane collided with the bank, and nosed over. The pilot said an examination of the landing area revealed that the surface was wet glacial silt, and much slicker than he had anticipated. He said there were no known mechanical problems with the airplane prior to the accident. He said the airplane received substantial damage to the right wing, lift strut, and strut attachment.

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, which resulted in a runway excursion, collision with terrain, and nose over.

Findings

Aircraft	Landing distance - Related operating info
Personnel issues	Decision making/judgment - Pilot
Environmental issues	Wet surface - Contributed to outcome
Environmental issues	Wet surface - Decision related to condition

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion
Landing-landing roll	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT) (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Nose over/nose down

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	42, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 27, 2008
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	August 16, 2008
Flight Time:	500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 90 hours (Total, this make and model), 450 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Aeronca	Registration:	N1301H
Model/Series:	15AC	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	15AC-325
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	December 1, 2008 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2050 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3650 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	C91A installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-360-A1A
Registered Owner:	FAIR DAVID E	Rated Power:	180 Horsepower
Operator:	FAIR DAVID E	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PAQ,750 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	20 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	13:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	270°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 8000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.52 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	10°C / 8°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Anchorage, AK (LHD)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Palmer, AK	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	13:11 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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:	61.255832,-148.583618(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Lewis, Lawrence

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: December 29, 2009

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note: This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.

Investigation Docket: <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=74635>

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