



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Kakhonak, Alaska Accident Number: ANC10CA059

Date & Time: July 12, 2010, 14:00 Local Registration: N7751K

Aircraft: Cessna 180J Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Nose over/nose down **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot reported that he was attempting to take off from an airstrip that was about 1,300 feet long. He noted that the wind was variable and gusting. During takeoff the airplane became airborne and subsequently began to settle back on the airstrip. As the airplane was approaching a bluff, the pilot realized that he did not have enough runway surface left to continue the takeoff. He pulled the power to idle and let the airplane settle onto the ground. The pilot then applied hard left rudder to avoid going over the bluff, at which point the airplane nosed over. The pilot stated that the airframe and engine had no mechanical failures or malfunctions during the attempted takeoff.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's decision to take off in unfavorable wind conditions.

Findings

Personnel issues Decision making/judgment - Pilot
Environmental issues Variable wind - Effect on equipment

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff-rejected takeoff	Nose over/nose down (Defining event)	

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	58,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	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 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 5, 2010
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	September 29, 2008
Flight Time:	12300 hours (Total, all aircraft), 50 hours (Total, this make and model), 10500 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 16 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

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Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N7751K
Model/Series:	180J	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18052719
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 23, 2010 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3190 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3667 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-470 SERIES
Registered Owner:	Kenneth D. & Christine M. Day	Rated Power:	230 Horsepower
Operator:	Kenneth D. & Christine M. Day	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	14:00 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	50 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots / 14 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.92 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	13°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Kakhonak, AK	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	Homer, AK (PAHO)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	14:00 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:	59.191387,-154.032226(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	McKenny, Van
Additional Participating Persons:	Robert Shafer; Federal Aviation Administration; Anchorage, AK
Original Publish Date:	April 12, 2011
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=76599

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

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.

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