

## **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location:	Homer, Alaska	Accident Number:	ANC09CA111
Date & Time:	July 3, 2009, 12:00 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N4299Z
Aircraft:	Piper PA-18-150	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Runway excursion	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

#### Analysis

The pilot was landing at an off-airport site surrounded by trees. The pilot stated that while on approach he increased his airspeed due to turbulence. The airplane landed hard and bounced. He added power to abort the landing, but realized that he could not climb over the trees at the end of the landing area and closed the engine throttle. As the airplane touched down again it continued off the end of the site and collided with brush. The pilot said that there were no mechanical problems with the airplane and that he should have used a slower approach airspeed or performed a go-around earlier in the landing. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing spar and aileron.

#### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's excessive airspeed during approach to compensate for turbulence, resulting in a hard landing and runway overrun.

# Findings Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot Environmental issues Terrain induced turbulence - Contributed to outcome Aircraft Airspeed - Not attained/maintained

### **Factual Information**

#### **History of Flight**

Approach	Turbulence encounter
Landing-flare/touchdown	Hard landing
Landing-aborted after touchdown	Runway excursion (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Collision during takeoff/land

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	57,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Front
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 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 28, 2011
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 1, 2010
Flight Time:	4848 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4350 hours (Total, this make and model), 4740 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

#### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N4299Z
Model/Series:	PA-18-150	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18-8558
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	July 13, 2008 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1750 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4406 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	C91A installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-320 SERIES
Registered Owner:	KAUFFMAN LOREN C	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:	KAUFFMAN LOREN C	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

#### Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PAHO,84 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	15 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	11:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	40°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	100 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	15 knots / 15 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	210°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.92 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	16°C / 9°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Homer, AK (PAHO)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Homer, AK	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	11:40 Local	Type of Airspace:	

#### Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	59.75,-151

#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Lewis, Lawrence
Additional Participating Persons:	Scott Schweizer; FAA FSDO-03; Anchorage, AK
Original Publish Date:	January 18, 2012
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=82324

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.