

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Pocatello, Idaho Accident Number: WPR13CA341

Date & Time: July 25, 2013, 11:27 Local Registration: N31YH

Aircraft: Cessna A185F Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot reported that during the landing with a gusting crosswind and a wind shift to a quartering tailwind, the airplane's right wing lifted up after he had lowered the tail to the runway. He applied corrective control inputs, however, the airplane yawed sideways causing the left landing gear to collapse and substantial damage to the left wing. The pilot reported no preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures that would have precluded normal operation.

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 during landing with gusting wind and a quartering tailwind.

Findings

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues Gusts - Not specified
Environmental issues Tailwind - Not specified

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)	
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	58
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land; Multi- engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	January 30, 2013
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	November 20, 2011
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 1220 hours (Total, all aircraft), 999 hours (Total, this make and model), 12 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N31YH
Model/Series:	A185F	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18504258
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	November 4, 2011 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4329 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	IO 520 SERIES
Registered Owner:	MATHEWS NICHOLAS A	Rated Power:	285 Horsepower
Operator:	MATHEWS NICHOLAS A	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:	KPIH,4452 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	11:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 11000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	260°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.15 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	26°C / 6°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Lodi, CA (KO20)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Pocatello, ID (KPIH)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	07:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Pocatello Regional Airport KPIH	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	4452 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	21	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	9060 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	

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:	42.909721,-112.595832(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	McKenny, Van
Additional Participating Persons:	Matt Green; Federal Aviation Administratin; Salt Lake City, UT
Original Publish Date:	November 19, 2013
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=87583

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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