



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Sleetmute, Alaska	Accident Number:	ANC13CA082
Date & Time:	August 15, 2013, 16:40 Local	Registration:	N185SN
Aircraft:	Cessna 185	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	4 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation		

Analysis

The pilot reported that during the landing roll in a tailwheel-equipped airplane, everything was normal until the tailwheel touched the ground and the airplane began to veer to the right. Despite the pilot's control inputs, the airplane continued to veer to the right, exited the runway, and came to rest upright. Examination of the airplane by the pilot revealed that the fuselage gear box was structurally damaged. The pilot reported no preaccident mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airplane 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.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial	Age:	65
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; 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; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 19, 2013
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 29, 2013
Flight Time:	22000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1600 hours (Total, this make and model), 18500 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 115 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 50 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N185SN
Model/Series:	185	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	185-01943
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	July 15, 2013 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3350 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO 520 SERIES
Registered Owner:	ALASKAN ADVENTURES RESTORATION THRU RECREATION LLC	Rated Power:	285 Horsepower
Operator:	David Henley	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PASL,190 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	13 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:16 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	347°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 2500 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 4200 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.79 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	17°C / 10°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Sleetmute, AK	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Sleetmute, AK	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	16:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	3 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	4 None	Latitude, Longitude:	61.700279,-159.165832(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Cawthra, Joshua
Additional Participating Persons:	ANC FSDO; FAA; Anchorage, AK
Original Publish Date:	December 2, 2013
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=87849

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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](#).