



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: LaGrange, Wyoming Accident Number: WPR14CA047

Date & Time: November 9, 2013, 07:30 Local Registration: N510MA

Aircraft: AVIAT AIRCRAFT INC A 1B Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Miscellaneous/other **Injuries:** 1 Minor

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot reported that after touchdown on the grass/sod airstrip, the landing roll was normal for about 100 feet, but then the airplane came to an abrupt stop, like it had hit something. The airplane nosed over substantially damaging the rudder and wings.

The pilot and ranch personnel inspected the landing area and followed the airplane's tracks back toward the point of touchdown. They found a large hole, likely dug by an animal, approximately 24" deep, and in line with the airplane's right tire track. The pilot said he did not see the hole when flying downwind, nor on the base leg, or final approach.

The pilot reported no preimpact 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 decision to land on a rough surface with hidden obstructions (holes).

Findings

Personnel issues Decision making/judgment - Pilot

Environmental issues Hidden/submerged object - Contributed to outcome

Environmental issues (general) - Contributed to outcome

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Miscellaneous/other (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Nose over/nose down

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	66
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
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 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	April 20, 2012
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	April 30, 2013
Flight Time:	3100 hours (Total, all aircraft), 431 hours (Total, this make and model), 2997 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 28 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	AVIAT AIRCRAFT INC	Registration:	N510MA
Model/Series:	A 1B B	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2005	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	2322
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	October 7, 2013 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	517 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	C91A installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-360 SERIES
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	180 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KTOR	Distance from Accident Site:	20 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	06:30 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	10°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	50 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.14 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	7°C / -7°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	LONGMONT, CO (LMO)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	LaGrange, WY	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	06:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class E

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Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	41.286109,-104.459724

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Lewis, Lawrence
Additional Participating Persons:	Brian C Neal; FAA FSDO ; Denver, CO
Original Publish Date:	February 4, 2014
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=88408

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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