



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	North Pole, Alaska	Accident Number:	ANC14CA021
Date & Time:	March 27, 2014, 13:30 Local	Registration:	N3125D
Aircraft:	Cessna 180	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

Prior to departure, the pilot was taxiing a ski-equipped airplane back-and-forth on a hard-packed, snow-covered runway, to warm up the engine oil, and polish any frost that might have accumulated on the bottom of the skis. During the last taxi pass the airplane began to drift to the left. He applied full right rudder, and a short burst of full engine power in attempt to correct for the drift, but the airplane continued to the left, striking trees along the edge of the runway. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the wings and fuselage. The pilot stated that there were no preaccident mechanical anomalies 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 of the airplane while taxiing on a snow covered runway, which resulted in a collision with a terrain.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	Snow/slush/ice covered surface - Effect on operation
Environmental issues	Tree(s) - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Taxi-into takeoff position	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Taxi-into takeoff position	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	40
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Lap only
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 23, 2013
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	February 24, 2013
Flight Time:	72.1 hours (Total, all aircraft), 23.3 hours (Total, this make and model), 39.5 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 4.6 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3.5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N3125D
Model/Series:	180 UNDESIGNAT	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1955	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	31923
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel; Ski	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 1, 2013 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2550 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3098 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	C91A installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-470 SERIES
Registered Owner:	HENRY DAVID W	Rated Power:	225 Horsepower
Operator:	HENRY DAVID W	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PAFB,460 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	5 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	60°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 20000 ft AGL	Visibility	85 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	250°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.9 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-2°C / -14°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	North Pole, AK (31AK)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Unknown
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class E;TRSA

Airport Information

Airport:	Dalrymple's Airport 31AK	Runway Surface Type:	Snow
Airport Elevation:	480 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Snow
Runway Used:	24	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2400 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

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:	64.489997,-147.25(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Banning, David
Additional Participating Persons:	James Watson; Federal Aviation Administration; Fairbanks, AK
Original Publish Date:	June 5, 2014
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.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=88980

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