



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Colebrook, New Hampshire	Accident Number:	ERA14CA195
Date & Time:	April 10, 2014, 09:30 Local	Registration:	N2143N
Aircraft:	Cessna 140	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Nose over/nose down	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

According to the private pilot, after landing, a 180 degree turn was required to back taxi on the runway. During the turn, the main landing gear encountered soft snow at the edge of the runway, and began to sink further into the snow. The pilot increased engine power to return the airplane to the center of the runway; however, the tail of the airplane began to rise and the strong quartering tailwind continued to nose the airplane over which resulted in substantial damage to the right wing strut and vertical stabilizer. The pilot reported the wind, at the time of the accident, was approximately 220 degrees at 15 knots with gusts up to 20 knots. He further reported that there were no mechanical malfunctions or abnormalities 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 power out of soft snow with a gusty quartering tailwind which resulted in the tail of the airplane rising and the airplane nosing over.

Findings

Personnel issues	Decision making/judgment - Pilot
Personnel issues	Use of equip/system - Pilot
Aircraft	(general) - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	Snow/slush/ice covered surface - Effect on operation
Environmental issues	Gusts - Effect on operation
Environmental issues	Tailwind - Effect on operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Taxi-from runway	Miscellaneous/other
Taxi-from runway	Attempted remediation/recovery
Taxi-from runway	Loss of control on ground
Taxi-from runway	Nose over/nose down (Defining event)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	43
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
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:	November 13, 2013
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	August 30, 2012
Flight Time:	252 hours (Total, all aircraft), 157 hours (Total, this make and model), 9 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N2143N
Model/Series:	140	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1947	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	12379
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 13, 2013 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1601 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	61 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3681 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	C91A installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-235 SERIES
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	0 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:	KBML, 1158 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	23 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	09:52 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	143°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.01 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	6°C / -7°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Colebrook, NH (4C4)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Colebrook, NH (4C4)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	GIFFORD FIELD 4C4	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf;Snow
Airport Elevation:	1017 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Snow;Soft;Vegetation;Wet
Runway Used:	04	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2466 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

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:	44.885833,-71.504447(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Etcher, Shawn
Additional Participating Persons:	Edward Angleo; FAA/FSDO; Portland, ME
Original Publish Date:	May 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.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=89053

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