



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: Nampa, Idaho Accident Number: WPR14LA205

Date & Time: May 13, 2014, 14:30 Local Registration: N5281D

Aircraft: Cessna 180A 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, after an uneventful approach to the runway, he conducted a tail-low, three-point landing in the tailwheel-equipped airplane. About 30 ft into the landing roll, the airplane suddenly turned sharply right and ground looped. Subsequently, the landing gear collapsed, and the left wing impacted the ground. Postaccident examination of the tailwheel revealed that, although it was heavily worn, it castered freely. No evidence of a mechanical malfunction or failure of the tailwheel was found 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 the landing roll, which resulted in a ground loop.

### Findings

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

### **Factual Information**

### **History of Flight**

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Landing gear collapse
Landing-landing roll	Ground collision

On May 13, 2014, about 1430 mountain daylight time, a Cessna 180A, N5281D, sustained substantial damage to the left wing during a ground loop at the Nampa Municipal Airport (MAN), Nampa, Idaho. The private pilot and one passenger were not injured. The airplane was owned and operated by the pilot under the provisions of 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91 as a personal flight. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan was filed. The flight originated from MAN at about 1415.

The pilot reported that after an uneventful approach to the runway, he landed the tailwheel equipped airplane in a tail low, three-point landing. About 30 feet into the landing roll the airplane suddenly turned sharply to the right and ground looped. Subsequently, the landing gear collapsed and the left wing impacted the ground.

Postaccident examination of the tailwheel by a Federal Aviation Administration inspector revealed the tailwheel was heavily worn; however, it castered freely, and no anomalies were noted.

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Private	Age:	75
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	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 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 19, 2014
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	January 28, 2013
Flight Time:	4060 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2000 hours (Total, this make and model), 4000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 30 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N5281D
Model/Series:	180A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1958	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	50179
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 16, 2014 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2650 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	1 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	6306 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-470 SERIES
Registered Owner:	Bruce Lape	Rated Power:	230 Horsepower
Operator:	Bruce Lape	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
MAN,2537 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
14:35 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Clear	Visibility	10 miles
None	Visibility (RVR):	
4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
80°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
30.39 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	22°C / -6°C
No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Nampa, ID (MAN )	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Nampa, ID (MAN )	Type of Clearance:	None
14:15 Local	Type of Airspace:	
	MAN,2537 ft msl  14:35 Local  Clear  None  4 knots /  80°  30.39 inches Hg  No Obscuration; No Precipitate Nampa, ID (MAN )  Nampa, ID (MAN )	MAN,2537 ft msl Distance from Accident Site:  14:35 Local Direction from Accident Site:  Clear Visibility  None Visibility (RVR):  4 knots / Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:  80° Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:  30.39 inches Hg Temperature/Dew Point:  No Obscuration; No Precipitation  Nampa, ID (MAN) Type of Flight Plan Filed:  Nampa, ID (MAN) Type of Clearance:

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# **Airport Information**

Airport:	Nampa Municipal Airport MAN	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	2537 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
Runway Used:	11	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5000 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

## 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:	43.575553,-116.520553(est)

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Link, Samantha
Additional Participating Persons:	Mike Misnick; Federal Aviation Administration; Boise, ID
Original Publish Date:	May 13, 2015
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=89261

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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