



Aviation Investigation Final Report

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Location: | Sand Point, Idaho | Accident Number: | WPR14CA288 |
| Date & Time: | July 8, 2014, 12:40 Local | Registration: | N4842H |
| Aircraft: | Piper PA 17 | 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 while taxiing a tailwheel equipped airplane from the runway, the airplane began to turn left. The pilot applied opposite rudder however, the turn sharpened and he "aggressively" applied the right brake which resulted in a ground loop. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing when the left main landing gear collapsed. The pilot reported no mechanical malfunctions or failure 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 of the airplane during taxi.

Findings

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|-------------------------|---|
| Aircraft | Directional control - Not attained/maintained |
| Personnel issues | Aircraft control - Pilot |
| Aircraft | Surface speed/braking - Not attained/maintained |

Factual Information

History of Flight

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| Taxi-from runway | Loss of control on ground (Defining event) |
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Pilot Information

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|----------------------------------|--|--|--------------|
| Certificate: | Private | Age: | 54 |
| 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 With waivers/limitations | Last FAA Medical Exam: | May 14, 2014 |
| Occupational Pilot: | No | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: | July 8, 2013 |
| Flight Time: | 1021.2 hours (Total, all aircraft), 220.1 hours (Total, this make and model), 4 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft) | | |

Passenger Information

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|----------------------------------|-----|--|---------|
| Certificate: | | Age: | |
| Airplane Rating(s): | | Seat Occupied: | Right |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | | Restraint Used: | 3-point |
| Instrument Rating(s): | | Second Pilot Present: | No |
| Instructor Rating(s): | | Toxicology Performed: | No |
| Medical Certification: | | Last FAA Medical Exam: | |
| Occupational Pilot: | UNK | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: | |
| Flight Time: | | | |

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

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|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aircraft Make: | Piper | Registration: | N4842H |
| Model/Series: | PA 17 NO SERIES | Aircraft Category: | Airplane |
| Year of Manufacture: | 1948 | Amateur Built: | |
| Airworthiness Certificate: | Normal | Serial Number: | 17-139 |
| Landing Gear Type: | Tailwheel | Seats: | 2 |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | July 7, 2014 Annual | Certified Max Gross Wt.: | 1150 lbs |
| Time Since Last Inspection: | | Engines: | 1 Reciprocating |
| Airframe Total Time: | 2664.86 Hrs as of last inspection | Engine Manufacturer: | CONT MOTOR |
| ELT: | C91 installed | Engine Model/Series: | A&C65 SERIES |
| Registered Owner: | STEPHAN DIEDRICH | Rated Power: | 65 Horsepower |
| Operator: | STEPHAN DIEDRICH | Operating Certificate(s) Held: | None |

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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|---|----------------------------------|---|----------|
| Conditions at Accident Site: | Visual (VMC) | Condition of Light: | Day |
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | | Distance from Accident Site: | |
| Observation Time: | | Direction from Accident Site: | |
| Lowest Cloud Condition: | Clear | Visibility | 10 miles |
| Lowest Ceiling: | None | Visibility (RVR): | |
| Wind Speed/Gusts: | / | Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual: | / None |
| Wind Direction: | 240° | Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual: | / |
| Altimeter Setting: | | Temperature/Dew Point: | 33°C |
| Precipitation and Obscuration: | No Obscuration; No Precipitation | | |
| Departure Point: | Sand Point, ID (SZT) | Type of Flight Plan Filed: | None |
| Destination: | Sand Point, ID (SZT) | Type of Clearance: | None |
| Departure Time: | 10:20 Local | Type of Airspace: | Class E |

Airport Information

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|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Airport: | SANDPOINT SZT | Runway Surface Type: | Asphalt |
| Airport Elevation: | 2131 ft msl | Runway Surface Condition: | Dry |
| Runway Used: | 19 | IFR Approach: | None |
| Runway Length/Width: | 5500 ft / 75 ft | VFR Approach/Landing: | Full stop |

Wreckage and Impact Information

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|----------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 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: | 48.299446,-116.559997(est) |

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Eckrote, Debra

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: September 24, 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=89634>

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