



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Meadow Creek, Montana	Accident Number:	WPR14CA384
Date & Time:	September 20, 2014, 09:45 Local	Registration:	N714TM
Aircraft:	Bellanca 7GCBC	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Nose over/nose down	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

Upon arrival in the vicinity of the unpaved airstrip, the pilot made a "mid-field fly over" to check the wind socks, which indicated calm winds. He then flew a low pass along the runway in order to ensure that it was suitable for landing. Satisfied with the wind and runway conditions, he flew a normal traffic pattern for landing. The tailwheel equipped airplane touched down in a 3-point attitude, but rebounded into the air. In accordance with previous experience, the pilot applied forward stick to "stop the bounce," and the airplane continued down the runway on the main gear. According to the pilot, the main wheels "hit a dip" which resulted in a nose down pitching that the pilot was unable to arrest. The airplane nosed over and came to rest inverted. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the wings and fuselage. A postaccident examination of the runway revealed no obvious holes or impediments in the landing strip surface. It was noted that one wind sock on the airport was situated so close to significantly taller trees that it would not have provided valid wind speed or direction information. Review of meteorological information indicated that light winds prevailed for the region.

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 inadequate landing flare and failure to maintain aircraft control during landing.

Findings

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Aircraft	Landing flare - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	(general) - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground
Landing-landing roll	Nose over/nose down (Defining event)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	36
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
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:	July 27, 2010
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	August 21, 2014
Flight Time:	211 hours (Total, all aircraft), 22 hours (Total, this make and model), 82 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 29 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 19 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Bellanca	Registration:	N714TM
Model/Series:	7GCBC NO SERIES	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1972	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Aerobatic; Normal	Serial Number:	348-72
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	December 19, 2013 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1650 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1873 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, activated, aided in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-320
Registered Owner:	SLEEPING GIANT FLYING CLUB INC	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:	SLEEPING GIANT FLYING CLUB INC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Benchmark, MT (3U7)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Meadow Creek, MT (0S1)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	09:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	Meadow Creek USFS 0S1	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	3984 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry;Holes;Rough;Vegetation
Runway Used:	35	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2830 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Unknown

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:	47.849445,-113.417503

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Huhn, Michael

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: December 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=90131>

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