



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Rio Vista, California Accident Number: GAA15CA001

Date & Time: March 6, 2015, 12:30 Local Registration: N32063

Aircraft: Waco UPF 7 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot stated that the airplane touched down uneventfully. During the landing roll a gust of wind picked up the right wing, the pilot applied right aileron and right rudder correction to regain control, but was unable to do so. The pilot lost directional control and advanced the throttle to the full position in an attempt to execute a go-around, subsequently the left wing came in contact with the ground and ground looped, which resulted in substantial damage to both of the left wings and left lift struts.

The pilot reported no preaccident 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 failure to maintain directional control during the landing roll.

Findings

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Environmental issues Gusts - Effect on operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-aborted after touchdown	Runway excursion

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	59
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Rear
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	August 28, 2014
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	August 28, 2014
Flight Time:	4500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 50 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Passenger Information

Certificate:		Age:	
Airplane Rating(s):		Seat Occupied:	Front
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:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:			

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Waco	Registration:	N32063
Model/Series:	UPF 7 NO SERIES	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1941	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	5695
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 10, 2014 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3095 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1745 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	R670-SERIES
Registered Owner:	BAYLEY DONALD T	Rated Power:	225 Horsepower
Operator:	BAYLEY DONALD T	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KSUU,62 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	12 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	19:58 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	291°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	360°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.25 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	19°C / 5°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Santa Rosa, CA (STS)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Rio Vista, CA (088)	Type of Clearance:	VFR flight following
Departure Time:	11:10 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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Airport Information

Airport:	Rio Vista 088	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	23 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	25	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4199 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Go around;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:	38.194168,-121.695831

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Vanover, Jackie
Additional Participating Persons:	Michael Bohammara; FAA ; Sacramento, CA
Original Publish Date:	May 13, 2015
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=90826

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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