



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Chicken, Alaska	Accident Number:	GAA17CA549
Date & Time:	September 5, 2017, 15:00 Local	Registration:	N734GW
Aircraft:	Cessna U206	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Dragged wing/rotor/float/other	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air taxi & commuter - Non-scheduled		

Analysis

The pilot reported that, while taking off from a road, the airplane struck a road sign with its left wing. He explained that, during takeoff, the airplane had accelerated rapidly and that, in the next moment, he felt a lurch to the left. The parking brake, which he had forgotten to release, then released. He added that he had "incorrectly assumed" that the brake had grabbed and caused the lurch, not the unknown to him, sign strike. Subsequently, he corrected with rudder and continued the flight.

He added that the airplane flew "normally" but that it had a "slightly left-wing heavy feel." He continued the flight without further incident.

Postaccident examination of the airplane revealed that it had sustained substantial damage to the left wing.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions 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 clearance from a sign while taking off from a road.

Findings

Personnel issues	Monitoring environment - Pilot
Environmental issues	Sign/marker - Effect on operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
Takeoff	Dragged wing/rotor/float/other (Defining event)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	59, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	September 1, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 1, 2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 7500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 5500 hours (Total, this make and model), 7000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 360 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 120 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N734GW
Model/Series:	U206 G	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1978	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Restricted (Special)	Serial Number:	U20604832
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3600 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-550
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Commuter air carrier (135), On-demand air taxi (135)

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PAEG,908 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	29 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	22:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	14°
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 4600 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.85 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	14°C / 11°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Chicken, AK	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	TOK, AK (6K8)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class G

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:	64.318054,-141.419723(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Swenson, Eric
Additional Participating Persons:	Daniel Foster; FAA; Fairbanks, AK
Original Publish Date:	January 11, 2018
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=96083

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