



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Benson, Arizona **Accident Number:** GAA19CA072

Date & Time: November 23, 2018, 08:30 Local Registration: N50340

Aircraft: BELLANCA 7GCBC Aircraft Damage: Substantial

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

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, during the landing, the right wing lifted, and the airplane drifted left. He added that he "overcorrected," and the airplane veered right off the runway. The left main landing gear caught in the dirt and collapsed, and the left wing impacted the ground.

The airplane 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.

The pilot reported that, about 15 minutes before the accident, the wind conditions were variable and calm.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's overcorrection during the landing, which resulted in a loss of directional control.

Findings

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Aircraft Rudder control system - Incorrect use/operation

Personnel issues Use of equip/system - Pilot

Environmental issues Crosswind - Effect on operation

Environmental issues Soft surface - Contributed to outcome

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)	
Landing	Attempted remediation/recovery	
Landing	Runway excursion	
Landing	Landing gear collapse	
Landing	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)	

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	51,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	4-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:	January 25, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	March 3, 2018
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 118.3 hours (Total, all aircraft), 19.1 hours (Total, this make and model), 53.9 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 4.4 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BELLANCA	Registration:	N50340
Model/Series:	7GCBC	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1978	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Aerobatic; Normal	Serial Number:	1074-79
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	0-320
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KTUS,2555 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	32 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	15:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	285°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	110°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.2 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	10°C / 3°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Benson, AZ (E95)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Benson, AZ (E95)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	08:15 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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Airport Information

Airport:	BENSON MUNI E95	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	3830 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	28	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4002 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Stop and go;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:	31.999166,-110.355834(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Benhoff, Kathryn
Additional Participating Persons:	Daniel Gredlein; FAA; Scottsdale, AZ
Original Publish Date:	September 26, 2019
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.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=98677

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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