



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Fairbanks, Alaska	Accident Number:	GAA18CA521
Date & Time:	August 1, 2018, 12:00 Local	Registration:	N437CC
Aircraft:	Cub Crafters CC18	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Miscellaneous/other	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Public aircraft		

Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that he was conducting a public aerial observation flight. During takeoff from an off-airport gravel airstrip, the airplane became airborne quickly. He added that the airplane settled back on the airstrip in a tail-low attitude, but he continued the takeoff. He "did not feel or hear any objects strike or damage the aircraft," and due to adverse weather conditions, he continued the flight to an alternate airport without further incident instead of continuing the observation flight.

Postaccident examination revealed leading edge damage and a hole in the left horizontal stabilizer.

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 premature liftoff and subsequent settling of the airplane to the gravel airstrip.

Findings

Personnel issues	Use of equip/system - Pilot
Aircraft	(general) - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	(general) - Effect on operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Miscellaneous/other (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	41,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	5-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	January 5, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	October 27, 2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 3130 hours (Total, all aircraft), 500 hours (Total, this make and model), 3080 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 150 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 90 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cub Crafters	Registration:	N437CC
Model/Series:	CC18 180	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2012	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	CC18-0059
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	February 28, 2018 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	838.5 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-360-C4P
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	180 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PACE,920 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	50 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	19:56 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	92°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 9000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 11000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.67 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	23°C / 12°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Fairbanks, AK (FAI)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Company VFR
Destination:	Fairbanks, AK (FAI)	Type of Clearance:	VFR;Traffic advisory
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	65.607223,-146.778884(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Benhoff, Kathryn
Additional Participating Persons:	John Mills; Department of Interior Bill Mallula; FAA; Anchorage, AK
Original Publish Date:	March 18, 2019
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=98203

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).