



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Manzanita, Oregon	Accident Number:	GAA17CA541
Date & Time:	September 16, 2017, 17:10 Local	Registration:	N232TB
Aircraft:	RUDBERG TODD W VANS ACFT RV8	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Wildlife encounter (non-bird)	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that he landed on the runway and noticed an elk running toward the nose of the airplane. He applied full throttle and climbed to avoid impact, but the propeller struck the elk. The pilot shut off the engine, and the airplane descended to the runway. When the airplane touched down on the runway, a second elk collided with the airplane's left wing. The airplane veered to the left, and the right main landing gear collapsed. The airplane then veered to the right and came to rest on the right wing.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to both wings.

The Airport Facility Directory for the accident airport stated that there was wildlife in the vicinity of the runway.

The pilot reported that there were 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 airplane's collision with two elks during landing.

Findings

Environmental issues	Animal(s)/bird(s) - Ability to respond/compensate
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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Wildlife encounter (non-bird) (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground
Landing-landing roll	Landing gear collapse

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	49,Male
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 2 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	April 17, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	May 19, 2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 1800 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1800 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Passenger Information

Certificate:		Age:	Female
Airplane Rating(s):		Seat Occupied:	Center
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	4-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:			

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	RUDBERG TODD W	Registration:	N232TB
Model/Series:	VANS ACFT RV8 UNDESIGNAT	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2003	Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Aerobatic; Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	81315
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 24, 2017 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1355.8 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	C91A installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO390
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	210 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument (IMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KAST, 22 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	28 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	12:01 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	4°
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 200 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	11°C / 11°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	Moderate - None - Mist		
Departure Point:	EVERETT, WA (PAE)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Manzanita, OR (3S7)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	NEHALEM BAY STATE 3S7	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	30 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	33	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2350 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

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:	45.698055,-123.929725(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hicks, Michael
Additional Participating Persons:	Marty Conroy; FAA; Portland, OR
Original Publish Date:	March 14, 2018
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=96034

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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](#).