



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Burlington, Washington	Accident Number:	GAA19CA080
Date & Time:	November 29, 2018, 12:00 Local	Registration:	N3619M
Aircraft:	Piper PA 12	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that, after touching down in crosswind conditions, the tailwheel-equipped airplane drifted left. He then applied opposite rudder and brake, but the airplane continued left, exited the runway, and struck a runway sign.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage and empennage.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

The airport's automated weather observation system reported that, about the time of the accident, the wind was from 320° at 8 knots. The pilot landed the airplane on runway 29.

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 while landing in crosswind conditions.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	Crosswind - Effect on operation
Environmental issues	Sign/marker - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

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

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	75, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	March 21, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	May 16, 2018
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 1975 hours (Total, all aircraft), 22 hours (Total, this make and model), 1750 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 22 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 0.5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0.5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N3619M
Model/Series:	PA 12 No Series	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1947	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	12-2517
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	3
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	November 5, 2016 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1750 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-A2A
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
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:	KBVS, 140 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	19:56 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	136°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 1200 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 6000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	320°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.7 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	11°C / 7°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Bellingham, WA (BLI)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Burlington, WA (BVS)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	11:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	SKAGIT RGNL BVS	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	145 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	29	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5478 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

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:	48.469444,-122.420555(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Swenson, Eric
Additional Participating Persons:	Sean Roukema; FAA; Seattle, WA
Original Publish Date:	September 26, 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=98702

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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](#).