



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Big Lake, Alaska	Accident Number:	GAA17CA159
Date & Time:	February 22, 2017, 16:30 Local	Registration:	N6024D
Aircraft:	Piper PA22	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Nose over/nose down	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, after conducting two touch-and-go landings at a nearby airport, he decided to land at a different airport to speak with a friend. He added that everything seemed normal during the touchdown on the snow-covered runway but that the airplane then "abruptly stopped and [nosed] over."

The airplane sustained substantial damage to both wings and the rudder.

The pilot reported that the inside of the left main landing gear and brake was "packed with ice" and had frozen, which prevented the wheel from rotating during the landing roll.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

The contamination of snow and ice on the left main landing gear and brake, which prevented the wheel from rolling during touchdown and resulted in a nose-over.

Findings

Environmental issues	Snow/slush/ice covered surface - Effect on operation
Aircraft	Wheel/ski/float - Not specified

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Nose over/nose down (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	54,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Unknown
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	March 18, 2016
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	November 21, 2016
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 599 hours (Total, all aircraft), 32 hours (Total, this make and model), 560 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 26 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2.2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N6024D
Model/Series:	PA22 150	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1956	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	22-4677
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	April 2, 2016 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3437 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-320 SERIES
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	150 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:	PAWS,354 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	8 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	14:16 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	74°
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 1200 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.2 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-11°C / -13°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	WASILLA, AK (IYS)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Big Lake, AK (BGQ)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	BIG LAKE BGQ	Runway Surface Type:	Gravel
Airport Elevation:	157 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Snow
Runway Used:	25	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2450 ft / 70 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Straight-in

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:	61.534721,-149.811111(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Benhoff, Kathryn
Additional Participating Persons:	William Lowen; FAA; Anchorage, AK
Original Publish Date:	April 10, 2017
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=94785

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