



Aviation Investigation Final Report

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Location: | Hailey, Idaho | Accident Number: | GAA19CA005 |
| Date & Time: | October 3, 2018, 11:25 Local | Registration: | N180BG |
| Aircraft: | Cessna 180 | 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, during takeoff in a crosswind, as the tailwheel lifted off the ground, the airplane veered left. He applied right rudder and hard right brake, but the airplane continued to weathervane. He then applied full brakes and reduced power to idle, and the airplane then departed the runway to the left and skidded sideways on gravel before coming to an abrupt stop.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage and horizontal stabilizer.

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

The automated weather observation system at the airport reported that, about the time of the accident, the wind was from 220° at 8 knots, gusting to 18 knots. The pilot was departing from runway 31.

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 during takeoff in gusting crosswind conditions.

Findings

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Aircraft | Directional control - Not attained/maintained |
| Personnel issues | Aircraft control - Pilot |
| Environmental issues | Crosswind - Effect on operation |
| Environmental issues | Gusts - Effect on operation |

Factual Information

History of Flight

| | |
|---------|--|
| Takeoff | Other weather encounter |
| Takeoff | Loss of control on ground (Defining event) |
| Takeoff | Attempted remediation/recovery |
| Takeoff | Runway excursion |

Pilot Information

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Certificate: | Commercial | Age: | 64,Male |
| Airplane Rating(s): | Single-engine land; Single-engine sea | Seat Occupied: | Left |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | None | Restraint Used: | 4-point |
| Instrument Rating(s): | Airplane | Second Pilot Present: | No |
| Instructor Rating(s): | None | Toxicology Performed: | No |
| Medical Certification: | Class 2 With waivers/limitations | Last FAA Medical Exam: | November 15, 2017 |
| Occupational Pilot: | No | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: | July 18, 2018 |
| Flight Time: | (Estimated) 1553 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1005 hours (Total, this make and model), 1429 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 43 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 24 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0.2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) | | |

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aircraft Make: | Cessna | Registration: | N180BG |
| Model/Series: | 180 Undesignat | Aircraft Category: | Airplane |
| Year of Manufacture: | 1955 | Amateur Built: | |
| Airworthiness Certificate: | Normal | Serial Number: | 31372 |
| Landing Gear Type: | Tailwheel | Seats: | 4 |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | April 1, 2018 100 hour | Certified Max Gross Wt.: | 2550 lbs |
| Time Since Last Inspection: | | Engines: | 1 Reciprocating |
| Airframe Total Time: | 6165 Hrs at time of accident | Engine Manufacturer: | Continental |
| ELT: | C91 installed, not activated | Engine Model/Series: | O-470S |
| Registered Owner: | | Rated Power: | 230 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: | KSUN, 5306 ft msl | Distance from Accident Site: | 0 Nautical Miles |
| Observation Time: | 17:31 Local | Direction from Accident Site: | 183° |
| Lowest Cloud Condition: | Few / 7000 ft AGL | Visibility | 10 miles |
| Lowest Ceiling: | | Visibility (RVR): | |
| Wind Speed/Gusts: | 8 knots / 18 knots | Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual: | None / None |
| Wind Direction: | 220° | Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual: | N/A / N/A |
| Altimeter Setting: | 30.02 inches Hg | Temperature/Dew Point: | 16°C / 3°C |
| Precipitation and Obscuration: | No Obscuration; No Precipitation | | |
| Departure Point: | Hailey, ID (SUN) | Type of Flight Plan Filed: | None |
| Destination: | Nampa, ID (MAN) | Type of Clearance: | VFR |
| Departure Time: | 11:25 Local | Type of Airspace: | Class D |

Airport Information

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| Airport: | FRIEDMAN MEMORIAL SUN | Runway Surface Type: | Asphalt |
| Airport Elevation: | 5319 ft msl | Runway Surface Condition: | Dry |
| Runway Used: | 31 | IFR Approach: | None |
| Runway Length/Width: | 7550 ft / 100 ft | VFR Approach/Landing: | None |

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: | 43.506668,-114.299446(est) |

Administrative Information

| | |
|--|---|
| Investigator In Charge (IIC): | Swenson, Eric |
| Additional Participating Persons: | Greg Horrell; FAA; Boise, ID |
| Original Publish Date: | April 8, 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=98425 |

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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](#).