



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Kenai, Alaska	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ANC23LA011
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	January 2, 2023, 14:57 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N94X
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Piper PA-18-150	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of control on ground	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Minor
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot reported that, during landing on a road in flat light conditions he drifted to the right after touching down and the right tire struck unplowed snow. The pilot was unable to correct, and the airplane continued to the right into a snow berm. Subsequently, it nosed over sustaining substantial damage to the wings, lift struts, and rudder. The pilot reported no preimpact 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 pilot's failure to maintain directional control during landing in flat light conditions, resulting in the airplane to nose over.

## Findings

<b>Aircraft</b>	Directional control - Capability exceeded
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Aircraft control - Pilot
<b>Environmental issues</b>	Flat light - Contributed to outcome



## Factual Information

### History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
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### Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	61,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	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:	
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	July 14, 2022
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	January 9, 2019
Flight Time:	778 hours (Total, all aircraft), 320 hours (Total, this make and model), 750 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N94X
Model/Series:	PA-18-150	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1962	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18-7858
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	October 25, 2022 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1750 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	1 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-320
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>		<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>	14:57 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Unknown	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Overcast	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	/	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	None / None
<b>Wind Direction:</b>		<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	N/A / N/A
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	2896 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	0°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Kenai, AK (ENA)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Nikiski, AK (AK73)	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	Unknown
<b>Departure Time:</b>	14:45 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	McGahan Industrial AK73	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	150 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Snow;Soft
<b>Runway Used:</b>		<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>		<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop;Traffic pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	60.726361,-151.29916(est)

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Ward, Mark

**Additional Participating Persons:** Scott Norman; FAA

**Original Publish Date:** March 30, 2023

**Last Revision Date:**

**Investigation Class:** [Class 4](#)

**Note:** The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=106557>

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