



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Friday Harbor, Washington	<b>Accident Number:</b>	WPR23LA291
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	July 27, 2023, 17:15 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N185GG
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Cessna A185F	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Hard landing	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, the airplane bounced during touchdown on a 3-point landing. The pilot elected to not correct with power or to execute a go-around. During the second touchdown, he was unable to arrest the airplane veering to the right and ground looped. The airplane exited the runway and the left gear collapsed. The left wing sustained substantial damage. The pilot reported there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions 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 loss of directional control during landing, which resulted in a ground loop.

## Findings

<b>Aircraft</b>	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Aircraft control - Pilot

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

Landing	Hard landing (Defining event)
Landing	Loss of control on ground

### Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	65, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	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:	
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	February 9, 2023
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	May 14, 2021
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 1631 hours (Total, all aircraft), 730 hours (Total, this make and model), 1414 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Cessna	<b>Registration:</b>	N185GG
<b>Model/Series:</b>	A185F	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	1975	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	18502787
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	6
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	March 17, 2021 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	3600 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	3490 Hrs as of last inspection	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Continental
<b>ELT:</b>	C126 installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	IO-520-D24M
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	On file	<b>Rated Power:</b>	300 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	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>	KFHR, 112 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	0 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	17:53 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	209°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	5 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	None /
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	250°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	N/A /
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.04 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	21°C / 13°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Seattle, WA (BFI)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Friday Harbor, WA	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	Traffic advisory; VFR flight following
<b>Departure Time:</b>	16:30 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Friday Harbor Airport FHR	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	113 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	16	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	3402 ft / 75 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop;Traffic pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<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 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	48.521972,-123.02436

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Blum, Contessa

**Additional Participating Persons:** Lawrence Tolentino; FAA; Seattle, WA

**Original Publish Date:** November 2, 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=192757>

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