



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

<b>Location:</b>	JUNEAU, AK	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ANC97LA114
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	08/01/1997, 2200 AKD	<b>Registration:</b>	N3491C
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Cessna 170B	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot was departing from an 800-foot-long beach site at dusk. During lift-off at less than flying speed the airplane dragged a wingtip and subsequently settled into the water.

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's selection of an unsuitable off-airport site for takeoff, and his premature lift-off.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

### Findings

1. (C) UNSUITABLE TERRAIN OR TAKEOFF/LANDING/TAXI AREA - SELECTED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. LIGHT CONDITION - DUSK
3. (C) LIFT-OFF - PREMATURE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

### Findings

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	31
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Flight Time:</b>	60 hours (Total, this make and model)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Cessna	<b>Registration:</b>	N3491C
<b>Model/Series:</b>	170B 170B	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Operator:</b>	JOHN L. DEMUTH	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Continental
<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-300A
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual Conditions	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Dusk
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	, 0 ft msl	<b>Weather Information Source:</b>	Pilot
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Overcast / 8000 ft agl	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	5 knots / , 330°
<b>Temperature:</b>	10° C	<b>Visibility</b>	3 Miles
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>			
<b>Departure Point:</b>	<b>Destination:</b> , AK (JNU)		

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>			

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	MATTHEW L THOMAS	<b>Adopted Date:</b>	11/10/1998
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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