



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Hollister, CA	Accident Number:	SEA08CA123
Date & Time:	05/02/2008, 1723 PDT	Registration:	N269SD
Aircraft:	Vans Aircraft RV-7A	Injuries:	2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that during takeoff initial climb, a large bird impacted the leading edge of the left wing slightly outboard of the fuel tank. The airplane immediately yawed and banked to left. The pilot attempted to straighten the airplane and land, however, despite his control inputs, the airplane continued to roll to the left. Subsequently, the left wing struck the ground and the airplane cart wheeled. Examination of the airplane revealed structural damage to the outboard sections of both wings and empennage. No mechanical anomalies were reported with the engine or airframe. A large deceased goose was found in the debris field following the accident.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
The in-flight collision with a bird.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) OBJECT - BIRD(S)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	44
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	
Flight Time:	515 hours (Total, all aircraft), 240 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	Vans Aircraft	Registration:	N269SD
Model/Series:	RV-7A	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Sean Patrick Farrell	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	KSNS	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	None
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	11 knots, 260°
Temperature:	13°C / 7°C	Visibility	6 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Hollister, CA (KCVH)	Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Frazier Lake Airpark (1C9)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Runway Used:	23	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	2500 ft / 100 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Joshua D Cawthra	Adopted Date:	05/28/2008
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	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 pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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