



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Chickaloon, AK	Accident Number:	ANC09CA029
Date & Time:	04/04/2009, 1500 AKD	Registration:	N40684
Aircraft:	MAULE M-4-210C	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Abnormal runway contact	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The solo private pilot was landing a wheel-equipped airplane at an off-airport, snow-covered site. During the landing roll, the airplane bounced when it encountered a small snowdrift. The pilot said that he attempted to recover but the airplane drifted to the right and nosed over when it touched down in deep snow. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the vertical stabilizer, rudder, and wing lift struts. The pilot said there were no preaccident mechanical problems with the airplane, and noted in his report to the NTSB that he should have selected a better area to land on.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's selection of an unsuitably rough and snow-covered landing area.

Findings

Personnel issues	Decision making/judgment - Pilot (Cause)
Environmental issues	Snow/slush/ice covered surface - Decision related to condition (Cause) Rough terrain - Decision related to condition (Cause)

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Abnormal runway contact (Defining event) Loss of control in flight Nose over/nose down
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	47
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without Waivers/Limitations	Last Medical Exam:	09/18/2007
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	09/08/2008
Flight Time:	88 hours (Total, all aircraft), 18 hours (Total, this make and model), 58 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	MAULE	Registration:	N40684
Model/Series:	M-4-210C	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	1083C
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	03/08/2008, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	11 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1155 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	C91 installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360 SER
Registered Owner:	JOHNSON JEFF	Rated Power:	300 hp
Operator:	JOHNSON JEFF	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:		Observation Time:	
Distance from Accident Site:		Condition of Light:	Day
Direction from Accident Site:		Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 6000 ft agl	Temperature/Dew Point:	-2 °C
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	Light and Variable, Variable	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:		Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Anchorage, AK (MRI)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Chickaloon, AK	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1330 ADT	Type of Airspace:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Clinton O Johnson	Adopted Date:	07/28/2009
Additional Participating Persons:	Herb H Herzog; Federal Aviation Administration (Airworthiness); Anchorage, AK		
Publish Date:	07/28/2009		
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/ .		

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.