



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Palmer, AK	Accident Number:	ANC10LA007
Date & Time:	11/03/2009, 1600 AST	Registration:	N1042A
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-18-160	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The solo commercial pilot was taking off from a gravel bar on a personal local flight when the accident occurred. The pilot said that he was taking off from a gravel bar when the left main landing gear tire struck a rock before collapsing. The left wing then struck the ground, resulting in structural damage to the wing. According to the pilot there were no mechanical problems with the airplane prior to the accident. The airplane was not examined by the NTSB.

Flight Events

Takeoff - Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
The pilot's selection of unsuitable terrain for takeoff.

Findings

Personnel issues-Action/decision-Info processing/decision-Decision making/judgment-Pilot - C
Environmental issues-Physical environment-Terrain-Rough terrain-Contributed to outcome

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Private	Age:	43
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	100 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	PIPER	Registration:	N1042A
Model/Series:	PA-18-160	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Casey Long	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-320
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:		Weather Information Source:	Pilot
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 1500 ft agl
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	/ 30 knots
Temperature:		Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Palmer, AK	Destination:	Palmer, AK

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Lawrence Lewis	Adopted Date:	08/12/2010
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=75041		

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.