



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Chena Hot Springs, AK	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ANC11CA001
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	10/01/2010, 1730 AKD	<b>Registration:</b>	N4166M
<b>Aircraft:</b>	PIPER PA-12	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of control on ground	<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

The pilot reported that he was landing the tailwheel-equipped airplane on a gravel-covered runway in a left crosswind. He stated that during touchdown he used insufficient rudder and the airplane veered to the left. He added power to correct the situation and abort the landing, but the airplane's right wing contacted trees and it pivoted to the right. The airplane continued to track right, exited the gravel runway, and came to rest at the base of an embankment. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing assembly and empennage. The pilot noted that there were no preimpact mechanical anomalies with the airplane.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate compensation for the wind conditions during landing, which resulted in a loss of directional control and collision with trees.

## Findings

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<b>Aircraft</b>	Directional control - Not attained/maintained (Cause)
<b>Environmental issues</b>	Tree(s) - Contributed to outcome
	Crosswind - Response/compensation (Cause)
	Crosswind - Contributed to outcome

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

Landing	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Takeoff	Attempted remediation/recovery Runway excursion

### Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	66, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With Waivers/Limitations	Last Medical Exam:	09/30/2010
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	10/04/2004
Flight Time:	5500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1400 hours (Total, this make and model), 3500 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 35 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 16 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	PIPER	Registration:	N4166M
Model/Series:	PA-12	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	12-3065
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	3
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	05/28/2010, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1935 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	54 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3083 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-320 SERIES
Registered Owner:	WOOLACE JAMES L	Rated Power:	180 hp
Operator:	WOOLACE JAMES L	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:		Temperature/Dew Point:	7° C
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 8000 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots/ 10 knots, 30°	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:		Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	North Pole, AK	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Chena Hot Springs, AK (AK13)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1700 ADT	Type of Airspace:	

## Airport Information

Airport:	Chena Hot Springs (AK13)	Runway Surface Type:	Gravel
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	08	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3000 ft / 60 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Go Around; Straight-in

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None		

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Dennis J Hogenson	Adopted Date:	03/16/2011
Additional Participating Persons:	Matt Fisher; FAA FSDO; Fairbanks, AK		
Publish Date:	03/16/2011		
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	<a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=77477">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=77477</a>		

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