



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Palmer, AK	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ANC15CA019
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	04/01/2015, 1415 ADT	<b>Registration:</b>	N3885Q
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CESSNA A185F	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of control on ground	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

The pilot was landing to the south on a gravel runway in his tailwheel-equipped Cessna 185 airplane. During the landing rollout, a wind gust from the east was encountered and the pilot was unable to maintain directional control. The airplane entered a ground loop, sustaining substantial damage to the right wing. The pilot stated there were no preaccident mechanical malfunctions or anomalies with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's loss of directional control during landing, resulting in a collision with terrain.

## Findings

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<b>Aircraft</b>	Directional control - Not attained/maintained (Cause)
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

Landing	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
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### Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	56
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
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:	05/23/2014
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	02/11/2015
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 111 hours (Total, all aircraft), 111 hours (Total, this make and model), 49 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 28 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	CESSNA	Registration:	N3885Q
Model/Series:	A185F F	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18502207
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	10/16/2014, 100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3350 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1020.3 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental Motors
ELT:	C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520D
Registered Owner:	CRUZ DAVID C	Rated Power:	300 hp
Operator:	CRUZ DAVID C	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	PAAQ, 242 ft msl	Observation Time:	2053 UTC
Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles	Condition of Light:	Day
Direction from Accident Site:		Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Temperature/Dew Point:	4°C / -2°C
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 10000 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	18 knots, 130°	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	29.8 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	SKWENTNA, AK (SKW)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	Palmer, AK (PAQ)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	1200 ADT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

## Airport Information

Airport:	PALMER MUNI (PAQ)	Runway Surface Type:	Gravel
Airport Elevation:	242 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Rough
Runway Used:	16S	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	1560 ft / 60 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop

## 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):	David S Williams	Adopted Date:	05/13/2015
Additional Participating Persons:			
Publish Date:	05/13/2015		
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	<a href="http://dms.ntsb.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=90992">http://dms.ntsb.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=90992</a>		

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