



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Kenai, AK	Accident Number:	GAA18CA303
Date & Time:	05/27/2018, 1300 AKD	Registration:	N4018E
Aircraft:	PIPER PA18	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, during the landing roll, the airplane ground looped to the left.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to both wings and lift struts.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

The automated weather observation station located about 5 miles north of the accident airport reported that, about 7 minutes before the accident, the wind was from 220° at 7 knots. The airplane landed on runway 36.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's failure to maintain directional control during the landing roll with a tailwind.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained (Cause)
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)
Environmental issues	Tailwind - Effect on operation Crosswind - Effect on operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	64, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Front
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 FAA Medical Exam:	03/02/2017
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	04/14/2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 600 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3 hours (Total, this make and model), 600 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N4018E
Model/Series:	PA18 150	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1977	Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18-7809040
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1750 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	O-320 SERIES
Registered Owner:	WILLIAMS, MATTHEW S.	Rated Power:	hp
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PAEN, 92 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	5 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2053 UTC	Direction from Accident Site:	359°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 12000 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	220°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.67 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	13° C / 4° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Anchorage, AK (LHD)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Kenai, AK (0AA7)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1200 AKD	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	KALIFONSKY MEADOWS (0AA7)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	65 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	36	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2539 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop; Traffic Pattern

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	Latitude, Longitude:	60.490000, -151.235000 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Kathryn R Benhoff	Report Date:	11/05/2018
Additional Participating Persons:	Matt Dahl; FAA; Juneau, AK		
Publish Date:	08/15/2019		
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=97339		

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. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).