



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Kenai, AK	<b>Accident Number:</b>	GAA19CA515
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	08/27/2019, 1430 AKD	<b>Registration:</b>	N7184B
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Piper PA18	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Hard landing	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, while landing on an unimproved airstrip, the airplane landed hard and veered left. He added that he "dumped [the] flaps and attempted to arrest the leftward direction with braking" and then applied full power to go around, but the airplane impacted a tree.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing, rudder, and left-wing lift strut.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions 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 improper landing flare, which resulted in a hard landing and the subsequent loss of directional control and impact with a tree.

## Findings

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<b>Aircraft</b>	Landing flare - Not attained/maintained (Cause) Directional control - Not attained/maintained (Cause)
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)
<b>Environmental issues</b>	Tree(s) - Effect on operation (Cause)

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Hard landing (Defining event)
Landing	Loss of control on ground Attempted remediation/recovery
Landing-aborted after touchdown	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

### Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	71, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
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:	09/28/2017
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	08/31/2018
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 1082 hours (Total, all aircraft), 807 hours (Total, this make and model), 1061 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 25 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N7184B
Model/Series:	PA18 150	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1956	Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18-5224
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	01/12/2019, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1750 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3787 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-320 A2A
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	150 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:	30 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2353 UTC	Direction from Accident Site:	135°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	6 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	260°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.16 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	19° C / 9° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	Moderate - Smoke; No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Kenai, AK (ENA)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Kenai, AK	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class G

## 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:	60.941667, -151.961111 (est)

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Eric M Gutierrez	Report Date:	02/11/2020
Additional Participating Persons:	Shawn Gannon; FAA; Anchorage, AK		
Publish Date:	02/11/2020		
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=100159">http://dms.ntsb.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=100159</a>		

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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](#).