



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

Location:	Palmer, AK	Accident Number:	ANC20LA002
Date & Time:	10/13/2019, 1620 AKD	Registration:	N7267A
Aircraft:	Cessna 172	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

On October 13, 2019, about 1620 Alaska daylight time, a Cessna 172 airplane, N7267A, sustained substantial damage following a collision with terrain during an emergency off-airport landing, about 15 nautical miles southeast of the Palmer Municipal Airport (PAAQ) Palmer, Alaska. The solo private pilot was not injured. The airplane was registered to and operated by the pilot under the provisions of Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 as a visual flight rules personal flight. Day visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time of the accident, and no flight plan was filed.

The pilot reported that, after flying around the Knik Glacier area, while returning to Birchwood Airport (PABV) Birchwood, Alaska, the engine began to run rough and the rpm "rolled back." He applied carburetor heat, confirmed a rich mixture, checked the fuel tank levels, and placed the fuel selector to the left tank. He added that, he verified the oil pressure, the magneto switch was selected to both, and that the primer was in and locked, but he was unable to restore full engine power. The pilot subsequently selected an all-terrain vehicle trail as a forced landing site. Just prior to touchdown, at about 15 feet above the ground, the left wing struck a small tree, the airplane yawed to the left and touched down in a nose low, off-center angle. Subsequently, the right main landing gear and nose gear separated, and the right wing struck the ground. The pilot was able to egress the airplane without further incident.

The airplane was equipped with a Continental O-300-B model engine. The airplane has been recovered and a detailed wreckage examination is pending.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N7267A
Model/Series:	172 Undesignat	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:	No		
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:	PAAQ, 230 ft msl	Observation Time:	2353 UTC
Distance from Accident Site:	15 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	5°C / -3°C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	3 knots / , 200°
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility:	10 Miles
Altimeter Setting:	29.97 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Departure Point:	Palmer, AK (4AK6)	Destination:	Birchwood, AK (BCV)

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:	61.450278, -148.683333 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Eric A Swenson
Additional Participating Persons:	Anthony Mattingly; FAA; Anchorage, AK
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.