

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Office of Aviation Safety
Washington, D.C. 20594

November 2, 2020

Global Positioning System

**Factual Report
By Noreen Price**

1. EVENT SUMMARY

Location: Eagle River, Alaska
Date: April 11, 2020
Aircraft: Cessna A185E Airplane
Registration: N185RN
Operator: Personal Flight
NTSB Number: ANC20LA043

2. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

On April 11, 2020, about 2025 Alaska daylight time, a wheel/ski-equipped Cessna A185E, N185RN, was substantially damaged when it was involved in an accident near D&C Fire Lake Flying Club Seaplane Base (D72), Eagle River, Alaska. Of the four occupants onboard, the pilot and one passenger sustained serious injuries, and two passengers sustained minor injuries. The airplane was operated as a Title *14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91* personal flight.

The following device was downloaded on July 17, 2020:

Device Manufacturer/Model: Garmin GPSmap 495
Serial Number: 1E0000413

2.1. Data Recovery

The device was undamaged and was downloaded normally using the manufacturer's software. Figure 1 shows the front and back of the device.



Figure 1. Photos of undamaged Garmin GPSMap 495

2.2. Data Description

The data extracted included 82 active logs dated from August 6, 2019 to April 11, 2000. Log 81 was determined to correspond to the accident flight based on the time, date and location of the accident. There was a total of 171 data points recorded in active log 081, beginning at 1945:25 and ending at 2022:53 ADT on April 11, 2020.

Active logs 75 through 80 were also downloaded to evaluate time enroute and fueling stops for the weeks before the accident. Refer to figure 2. Birchwood Airport (BCV) was the refueling location and the family camp was about 68 miles west of the accident at Fire Lake.

AIRLOG/DATE	START TIME	END TIME	MOVEMENT TIME	ROUTE
75 3/28/2020	1815	1818	3 min	BCV fuel pit to takeoff*
76 3/28/2020	1818	1856	38 min	BCV takeoff to camp
77 3/28/2020	2012	2058	45 min	Camp to Fire Lake
78 4/04/2020	1633	1715	42 min	Fire Lake to Camp
79 4/04/2020	1840	1920	40 min	Camp to Fire Lake
80 4/11/2020	1341	1422	41 min	Fire Lake to Camp
81 4/11/2020	1945	2023	37 min	Camp to accident site

*Note: Logs 75 and 76 have recorded data from a singular flight.

Figure 2. Flight time and routes for active logs 75 through 81.

2.3. TABULAR DATA

Tabular data are included as Attachment 1. This attachment is provided in electronic comma-delimited (.CSV) format.

2.4. Mapping

Figure 3 shows the GPS track from the accident flight as an overlay to a Google Earth image.

Figure 4 shows the end of the GPS track data that was recorded in a three-dimensional format on a Google Earth map.

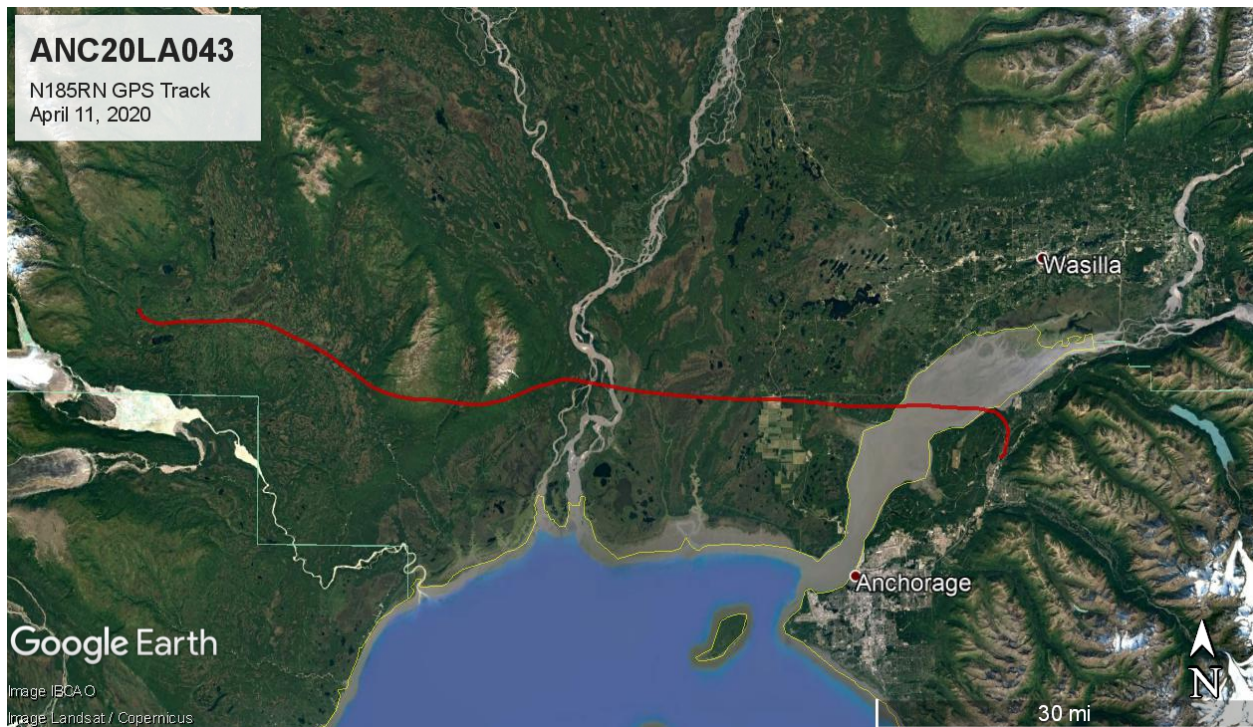


Figure 3. GPS track displayed on a Google Earth image.



Figure 4. The end of the GPS track.