

Inspector Statement

Aircraft Struck Deer on Landing

Reg: N81GW
Pilot: Ian S Wolfe
Make: Vans
Model: RV-8A
s/n: 80917

Accident Date/Time Location:
11/10/2014 1830 Local Bulverde Airpark (1T8), Bulverde, TX 78163

The pilot and passenger were on a Part 91 personal flight from Bourne Stage Field (5C1) direct to Bulverde Airpark (1T8) for landing. The aircraft landed after dark at 1830 local time.

The approach to landing on Runway 16 (1T8) was normal. During the landing roll out, a young female deer crossed the path of the aircraft running from the left of the runway to the right. The aircraft impacted the deer on the right outboard leading edge of the wing causing leading edge damage and skin wrinkling on the upper and lower wing surface. There was also some skin tearing on the lower wing in the impact area.

The aircraft yawed violently to the right on impact but the pilot was able to regain control and bring the aircraft to a complete stop. Initial systems check revealed no engine malfunction and the pilot taxied to parking. After parking the pilot was able to see the damage from the impact. The impact killed the deer.

A later wing inspection and assessment determined the wing spar was damaged by the impact and the wing assembly was replaced.

There were no injuries sustained by the pilot or passenger. The only damage was to the aircraft.

Thomas C Fowles
SAT FSDO
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