

15 July 2023

Deer Collision at KCJR

At approximately 21:50 hours on 14 July 2023 we collided with a deer on the takeoff roll at KCJR (Culpeper Regional Airport). We departed KHEF (Manassas Regional Airport) at approximately 21:15 in N1809H and proceeded on course to the CSN VOR. After passing CSN we proceeded to KCJR to complete some night landings, landings one, two, three and four were completed with no issues. We stopped and reset our trim and ensured everything was set for takeoff. The student applied full power and checked the engine instruments. Mikhail released the brakes and we accelerated down the runway. Mikhail called out our airspeed as it was climbing, shortly after he called out 50kts we both noticed two deer standing in the center of the runway as their eyes were glowing from the landing light. We both called for the abort and he slammed the power to idle, applied brakes, and full aft elevator to aid in slowing down the aircraft. I assisted with the brakes and elevator, but we were unable to stop before the deer and ended up colliding with one with the left wing. It appeared to hit about half way down right next to the left fuel tank. After both deer ran off into the trees we taxied off of the runway to the FBO to inspect the aircraft. I noticed that the wing was crumpled and dented and could smell hot brakes. We shut down the engine and ensured that there was no fuel leaking from the fuel tank and let the brakes cool before moving the aircraft to a parking spot and tying it down.

Andrew Biss

07/15/2023



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On July 14, 2023, we filed for 20:55 departure from KHEF to FLUKY to then continue westbound for night full stop landing practice at KCJR with 2 crew on board. Actual time of departure was 9:17pm from KHEF with route via CSN. Upon reaching KCJR we performed 4 full stop landings. After the 4th landing, we applied full power and a few seconds into the roll, 2 deer jumped out in front of the propeller. We immediately cut power and applied the brakes however the deer hit the left wing at approximately 21:55. We immediately aborted takeoff and parked the airplane in front of the FBO to assess the damage. Upon inspecting the wing, we deemed the subsequent flight not possible.

Mikhail Osanov

07/15/2023