



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	New York, NY	Accident Number:	DCA13CA066
Date & Time:	12/05/2012, 1800 EST	Registration:	N411ZW
Aircraft:	BOMBARDIER INC CL-600-2B19	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Birdstrike	Injuries:	53 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 121: Air Carrier - Scheduled		

Analysis

On December 5, 2012, at approximately 1800 eastern standard time, a Bombardier CRJ200 operated by Air Wisconsin as USAirways Express flight 3852, experienced a bird strike while descending through 7,000 feet on approach to the New York LaGuardia Airport, New York. The bird strike occurred about 30 miles southwest of the airport, at an airspeed of 200 knots. The crew continued the approach and made a normal landing. Weather at the time of the event was night visual conditions. There were no injuries to the 3 crewmembers or 50 passengers.

Structural damage was found on skin panels, bulkheads, stringers, frames, nose landing gear support structure, ADG enclosure, leading edges, and piccolo ducts. The forward pressure bulkhead was dented, deformed, and punctured in several areas, affecting the structural strength of the bulkhead and require major repair or replacement, thereby qualifying as substantial damage.

The species of bird was identified as Snow Goose by the Smithsonian Institution bird hazard laboratory.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

an inadvertant birdstrike on approach.

Findings

Environmental issues

Animal(s)/bird(s) - Effect on equipment (Cause)

Factual Information

History of Flight

Approach	Birdstrike (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	Age:	56, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 With Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	10/04/2012
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	17899 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4811 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Co-Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	25, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 With Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1209 hours (Total, all aircraft), 287 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	BOMBARDIER INC	Registration:	N411ZW
Model/Series:	CL-600-2B19	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Transport	Serial Number:	7569
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	53
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		Certified Max Gross Wt.:	53000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Turbo Fan
Airframe Total Time:	26288 Hours at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	GE
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	CF34 SERIES
Registered Owner:	US BANK NA TRUSTEE	Rated Power:	9140 lbs
Operator:	Air Wisconsin	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Flag carrier (121)
Operator Does Business As:	US Airways Express	Operator Designator Code:	A6WA

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Dusk
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KLGA	Observation Time:	
Distance from Accident Site:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Temperature/Dew Point:	
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:		Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:		Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Philadelphia, PA (PHL)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	New York, NY (KLGA)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	LaGuardia (KLGA)	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:	0 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	N/A	IFR Approach:	Visual
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	3 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	50 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	53 None	Latitude, Longitude:	40.777222, -73.872500

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): William R English **Adopted Date:** 02/26/2014

Additional Participating Persons:

Publish Date: 01/31/2018

Note: This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.

Investigation Docket: <http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=86417>

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