

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

February 7, 2020

Mr. Mike Becker Director of Corporate Compliance Forest River, Inc. 2324 Century Drive Goshen, IN 46528

Subject: Emergency Break-Away Switch May Fail

Dear Mr. Becker:

This letter serves to acknowledge Forest River, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NEF-150KL

20V-049

#### Makes/Models/Model Years:

FOREST RIVER/FREEDOM EXPRESS/2020 FOREST RIVER/SALEM/2020 FOREST RIVER/STEALTH EVO/2020 FOREST RIVER/VIBE/2020 FOREST RIVER/WILDCAT MAXX/2020 FOREST RIVER/WILDWOOD/2020

Mfr's Report Date: January 29, 2020

NHTSA Campaign Number: 20V-049

**Components:** 

SERVICE BRAKES, ELECTRIC

Potential Number of Units Affected: 218

# **Problem Description:**

Forest River, Inc. (Forest River) is recalling certain 2020 Freedom Express, Salem, Stealth EVO, Vibe, Wildcat Maxx, and Wildwood recreational trailers. The emergency break-away switch may fail.

### **Consequence:**

In the event of trailer separation from the tow vehicle, a failed break-away switch will not apply the trailer's brakes, increasing the risk of a crash.

## Remedy:

Forest River will notify owners, and dealers will replace the break-away switch, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin March 13, 2020. Owners may contact Forest River customer service at 1-503-831-5410 or 1-574-825-8205. Forest River's number for this recall is 51-1129.



#### **Notes:**

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kristin Lepper who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, or by email at kristin.lepper@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Joshua Neff

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigations

Enforcement

