



U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION



Investigation: RQ24008
Prompted By: Recall Remedy Review.
Date Opened: 04/11/2024
Investigator: Joseph Geissler **Reviewer:** Peter Kivett
Approver: Tanya Topka
Subject: Under hood fires caused by fuel leak

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Ford Motor Company
Products: Model Year 2022-2023 Ford Bronco Sport Model Year 2022 Ford Escape
Population: 42,652 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Subject vehicles can develop a fuel leak due to a cracked fuel injector. Liquid fuel and/or fuel vapor can accumulate near ignition sources resulting in an increased risk of a fire.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	EWR D&I	Other	Total	EWR Field Reports
All Incidents:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0	0	0	0

ACTION/SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: A Recall Query (RQ) has been opened.

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) reviewed Ford Motor Company's (Ford's) proposed remedy for recall 24V-187. ODI evaluated information from Ford concerning the recall remedy for the involved vehicles.

Ford issued recall 24V-187 on March 8, 2024, which concerns certain model year (MY) 2022-2023 Ford Bronco Sport and MY 2022 Ford Escape vehicles equipped with 1.5L engines. Recall 24V-187 states that a fuel injector may crack resulting in liquid fuel and/or fuel vapor migration to, and accumulation near, ignition sources that may cause an under hood fire, fuel odor both outside and inside of the vehicle, and increase the risk of injury. Recall 24V-187 further states that a cracked fuel injector in the engine allows for fuel to leak at a high rate into the cylinder head, which can travel out via a drain hole and down onto hot surfaces on the exhaust and/or turbo system.

The recall remedy for 24V-187 involves 1) an engine control software update and 2) installation of a drain

tube. The engine control software update will detect a pressure drop in the fuel rail providing a “seek service” message within the vehicle’s instrument cluster, as well as invoke a strategy to disable the high-pressure fuel pump, de-rate engine power output, and reduce temperatures of possible ignition sources in the engine compartment. The drain tube will allow fuel to drain from the cylinder head hole to the ground below the vehicle away from surfaces which may initiate combustion. The recall remedy does not include replacement of the cracked fuel injector.

On November 18, 2022, recall 22V-859 was issued involving MY 2020-2023 Ford Escape and MY 2021-2023 Ford Bronco Sport vehicles. Stated with recall 22V-859, the Description of the Defect, Description of the Safety Risk, Description of the Cause, Identification of Any Warning that can Occur, and Description of Remedy Program are the same as stated in recall 24V-187.

ODI is opening this Recall Query (RQ) to evaluate the adequacy and safety consequences of the remedy described in recall 24V-187.