

**Part 573 Safety Recall Report****15V-589**

**Manufacturer Name :** Forest River, Inc.  
**Submission Date :** SEP 21,2015  
**NHTSA Recall No. :** 15V-589  
**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 17B-0918-2015-0090

**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Forest River, Inc.  
 Address : 55470 CR 1  
 P.O. Box 3030 Elkhart IN 46515-3030  
 Company phone : 219-533-5934

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 5,374  
 Estimated percentage with defect : 80

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle : 2009-2016 Forest River, Inc. Cherokee

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Cherokee is a recreational vehicle manufactured by Forest River, Inc.

Production Dates : MAY 16, 2008 - SEP 14, 2015

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2009-2016 Forest River, Inc. Vengeance

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Vengeance is a recreational vehicle manufactured by Forest River, Inc.

Production Dates : MAY 16, 2008 - SEP 14, 2016

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

Not sequential VINs

**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : In the front exterior of the trailer is a junction box that the umbilical 7-Way Bargmen Plug terminates into. This umbilical provides 12V power to the trailers lights, electric brakes, battery charging, and many interior 12V fixtures. The wiring harness that Forest River connects to this umbilical has an inadequate 16AWG gauge wire providing a ground to the trailers chassis. A 10 AWG wire should have

been installed instead of the 16AWG wire. A 10 AWG wire shall provide a total AMP load for grounding of up to 30AMPS as outlined in the NEC Table NEC310.15(B) (16).

FMVSS 1 :NR

FMVSS 2 :NR

Description of the Safety Risk :The 16 AWG provides insufficient grounding for the 30 AMPs, which may cause melting, smoldering, and possibly fire.

Description of the Cause : The wiring harness that Forest River connects to the 7-Way Bargmen Plug has an inadequate 16AWG gauge wire providing a ground to the trailer chassis and does not comply with the gauge as listed in the NEC Table NEC310.15(B) (16). The wiring for the vehicle is of 30AMP input and requires a conductor to ground the junction box to the chassis of the same 30AMP capability. The grounding conductor should be 10AWG, which is rated for the required 30AMP capability.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : A smell of burning or smoldering plastic may be detected. In addition, smoldering smoke may be visible from the junction box. However, depending on the location of the junction box and where it is mounted on the vehicle/towable chassis, the owner may not be able to detect any physical indication of the defect. In most cases, the junction box is mounted on the drawbars behind the front cross member. This location is not in a visible area.

#### Supplier Identification :

##### Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

#### Chronology :

Cedar Creek Warranty was notified of a short circuit and fire from the area where the 7-Way power plug terminates into the 4 x 4 metal junction box. It was determined that the ground wire was at fault and was of insufficient gauge. The Cedar Creek Warranty personnel began an investigation into warranty claims and identified additional warranty claims related to this issue. Cedar Creek advised Forest Rivers' Department of Compliance on September 15Th, 2015 of the defect. Forest River's compliance department reviewed the EWR data in conjunction with the warranty data and identified potential warranty claims related to this issue with products manufactured in the production facility since May 16Th, 2008 (MY 2009). Forest River is recalling vehicles manufactured beginning on May 16, 2008 (MY 2009).

#### Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Forest River's remedy program will cover all costs of inspecting all vehicles within the scope of the VIN number range and replace any ground wire that is not of 10AWG. This service will be performed free of charge to the dealership and customer.

**How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :** If a vehicle is found with the ground wire of smaller wire gauge (12AWG, 14AWG or 16AWG as examples), the ground wire will be replaced with the correct size as indicated of 10AWG. The remedy wire gauge is capable of grounding 30AMP capacity as dictated by the National Electric Code.

**Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :** Manufacturing, Corporate Quality Control as well as the Pre Delivery Inspection (PDI) entities were advised on September 11Th, 2015 as to the defect. Vehicles were placed on hold that were in Forest River's control and remedied. Manufacturing is using the correct 10AWG wire for the grounding of the circuit going forward.

**Recall Schedule :**

**Description of Recall Schedule :** Forest River has the utmost urgency in our recalls. Forest River has sent suspected VIN numbers to our third party vendor that is licensed to pull data on the current owner of the vehicles. Forest River intends on pushing the mailing out as soon as NHTSA provides any correction(s) and an Acknowledgement Letter.

**Planned Dealer Notification Date :** NOV 18, 2015 - NOV 18, 2015

**Planned Owner Notification Date :** NOV 18, 2015 - NOV 18, 2015

\* NR - Not Reported