



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

February 26, 2016

Ms. Terri Tobias  
Regulatory Compliance Manager  
Open Range R.V. Company  
903 South Main Street  
P.O. Box 460  
Middlebury, IN 46540

NVS-215MR  
16V-112

**Subject:** Trailer Safety Chains not Equal to GVWR

Dear Ms. Tobias:

This letter serves to acknowledge Open Range R.V. Company'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.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**

OPEN RANGE/JOURNEYER/2012-2015

**Mfr's Report Date:** February 22, 2016

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 16V-112

**Components:**

EQUIPMENT:RECREATIONAL VEHICLE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 387

**Problem Description:**

Open Range R.V. Company (Open Range) is recalling certain model year 2012-2015 Journeyer trailers, models JT 337 RLS and JT340FLR, manufactured September 6, 2011, to April 30, 2014. The affected vehicles are equipped with safety chains on the A-frame that are rated for 11,700lbs instead of being rated equal to, or greater than, the gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of the travel trailer.

**Consequence:**

In the event the main trailer connection fails, the weight of the trailer can break the safety chains if the chains are not strong enough, allowing the trailer to separate from the vehicle, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Open Range will notify owners, and dealers will replace the existing safety chains with chains that have a 16,200lb rating, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Open Range customer service at 1-260-768-7771. Open Range's number for this recall is 9905277.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have received Open Range's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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).

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available. Please be reminded that it is required that owners be notified of a safety defect in their vehicles within 60 days of a manufacturer's notification to NHTSA of a safety defect in those vehicles.

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 Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at 202-366-1060, or by email at [michelle.rice@dot.gov](mailto:michelle.rice@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigations  
Enforcement