

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 25V-025

**Manufacturer Name :** Ford Motor Company

**Submission Date :** MAR 28, 2025

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 25V-025

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 25S01



## Manufacturer Information :

**Manufacturer Name :** Ford Motor Company

**Address :** 330 Town Center Drive

Suite 500 Dearborn MI 48126-2738

**Company phone :** 1-866-436-7332

## Population :

**Number of potentially involved :** 149,449

**Estimated percentage with defect :** 30 %

## Vehicle Information :

**Vehicle 1 :** 2021-2024 FORD BRONCO

**Vehicle Type :** LIGHT VEHICLES

**Body Style :** ALL

**Power Train :** GAS

**Descriptive Information :** The recalled part was introduced into production on 09/23/2020 date and was taken out of production on 07/23/2024.

These vehicles are not produced in VIN order. Information as to the applicability of this action to specific vehicles can best be obtained by either calling Ford's toll-free line (1-866-436-7332) or by contacting a local Ford or Lincoln dealer who can obtain specific information regarding the vehicles from the Ford On-line Automotive Service Information System (OASIS) database.

149,449 Ford Bronco vehicles are affected.

**Production Dates :** SEP 23, 2020 - JUL 23, 2024

**VIN Range 1 : Begin :**

NR

**End :** NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** The long flange rear shock absorbers in affected vehicles may experience corrosion between the external reservoir, mounting flange, and the damper body, resulting in separation of the external reservoir.

**FMVSS 1 :** NR

**FMVSS 2 :** NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** If a rear shock absorber external reservoir separates from the vehicle, it can create a potential road hazard for other road users, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Description of the Cause :** Crevice corrosion can build up at the retention interface between the external

reservoir and the long flange shock absorber damper tube. This creates a jacking force, leading to erosion of the weld and parent material. This erosion can lead to separation of the external reservoir tube.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Customers may experience a bouncy ride, noise, or leaking fluid near the rear wheels prior to the detachment of an external reservoir.

## Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Shock Absorber

Component Description : Rear Shock Absorber – Badlands Trim with Capable Suspension, Short Wheel Base

Component Part Number : MB3C-18080-APH

Component Name 2 : Shock Absorber

Component Description : Rear Shock Absorber – Badlands Trim with Capable Suspension, Short Wheel Base

Component Part Number : MB3C-18080-APJ

Component Name 3 : Shock Absorber

Component Description : Rear Shock Absorber – Badlands Trim with Capable Suspension, Long Wheel Base

Component Part Number : MB3C-18080-ARJ

Component Name 4 : Shock Absorber

Component Description : Rear Shock Absorber – Badlands Trim with Capable Suspension, Long Wheel Base

Component Part Number : MB3C-18080-ARK

Component Name 5 : Shock Absorber

Component Description : Rear Shock Absorber – Sasquatch Trim, Short Wheel Base

Component Part Number : MB3C-18080-RAJ

Component Name 6 : Shock Absorber

Component Description : Rear Shock Absorber – Sasquatch Trim, Short Wheel Base

Component Part Number : MB3C-18080-RAK

Component Name 7 : Shock Absorber

Component Description : Rear Shock Absorber – Sasquatch Trim, Long Wheel Base

Component Part Number : MB3C-18080-RBK

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : Thyssenkrupp Bilstein of America

Address : 8685 Bilstein Blvd

Hamilton Ohio 45015-2205

Country : United States

## Chronology :

On October 31, 2024, the Office of Defect Investigation (ODI) of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) contacted Ford regarding four (4) Vehicle Owner Questionnaires (VOQs) that alleged a failure of Ford Bronco long flange rear shock absorbers, three (3) of which allege an external reservoir detachment. On November 14, 2024, Ford's Critical Concern Review Group (CCRG) responded to NHTSA's inquiry and opened an investigation into the concern for 2021 - 2024 MY Ford Bronco vehicles equipped with long flange shock absorbers.

The CCRG confirmed that the design of the mounting flange between the damper body and the external reservoir was changed from a long flange to a short flange assembly to improve robustness to corrosion on May 01, 2024 for Badlands vehicles and on July 23, 2024 for vehicles equipped with the Sasquatch package.

From November to December 2024, the CCRG investigation conducted laboratory accelerated corrosion testing on the long flange shock absorbers. During this testing, the CCRG observed that the long flange variant shock absorbers used on Ford Bronco vehicles were more prone to crevice corrosion than the short flange variant. CCRG also conducted part return analysis of short and long flange variants and noted that long flange variant shock absorbers showed more corrosion than the short flange variant.

As of December 11, 2024, Ford has received 551 warranty claims, one field report, and two customer reports related to this concern. The warranty reports were received between March 27, 2023, and November 18, 2024. The field report was received on September 04, 2024. The owner reports were received on July 24, 2024 and October 16, 2024.

On January 10, 2025, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved a field action.

Ford is not aware of any reports of accident or injury related to this condition.

## Description of Remedy :

**Description of Remedy Program :** Owners will be notified by mail and instructed to take their vehicle to a Ford or Lincoln dealer to inspect both rear shock absorbers. For vehicles that pass the inspection, dealers will apply a corrosion inhibiting sealant and install one shield per side. For vehicles that do not pass the inspection, dealers will replace both rear shock absorbers. There will be no charge for this service.

Ford provided the general reimbursement plan for the cost of remedies paid for by vehicle owners prior to notification of a safety recall in May 2023. Owners who have paid to have these repairs completed at their own expense may be eligible for reimbursement, in accordance with the recall reimbursement plan on file with NHTSA.

**How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :** The rear shock absorbers (MB3C-18080-APH, -APJ, -ARJ, -ARK, -RAJ, -RAK, -RBK) will have shielding and sealant installed. In some cases, the rear shock absorbers will be replaced with shock absorbers with a short flange design. The recall remedy will prevent detachment of the external reservoir.

**Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :** Not required per 49 Part 573.

## Recall Schedule :

**Description of Recall Schedule :** Notification to dealers is expected to occur on January 21, 2025. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin February 03, 2025 and is expected to be completed by February 07, 2025.

**Planned Dealer Notification Date :** JAN 21, 2025 - JAN 21, 2025

**Planned Owner Notification Date :** FEB 03, 2025 - FEB 07, 2025

\* NR - Not Reported