



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

October 8, 2010

MR. WILLIAM CONWAY JR.  
CHIEF CORPORATE ENGINEER  
FOREST RIVER, INC.  
55470 COUNTY ROAD 1  
P.O. BOX 3030  
ELKHART, INDIANA 46515-3030

NVS-215dgl  
10V-460

DEAR MR. CONWAY:

SUBJECT: AXLE ASSEMBLY/WHEEL END SEPARATION

This letter serves to acknowledge Forest River Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles 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:**  
FOREST RIVER/SANDPIPER/2011  
FOREST RIVER/SIERRA/2011

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 10V-460

**Mfg's Report Date:** September 21, 2010

**Components:** POWER TRAIN: AXLE ASSEMBLY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 92

**Summary:**

FOREST RIVER IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2011 SANDPIPER AND SIERRA TRAILERS EQUIPPED WITH DEXTER AXLES. ON SOME AXLES, CRACKS COULD APPEAR IN THE SPINDLE WELD.

**Consequence:**

THESE CRACKS CAN PROPAGATE AND CAUSE THE SPINDLE TO DETACH FROM THE AXLE TUBE, RESULTING IN THE SEPARATION OF THE WHEEL END FROM THE VEHICLE, CREATING A ROAD HAZARD AND/OR COMPROMISING THE DRIVER'S CONTROL OF THE VEHICLE, INCREASING THE RISK OF A VEHICLE CRASH.

**Remedy:**

FOREST RIVER IS WORKING WITH DEXTER AXLE AND WILL INSPECT THE AXLE SERIAL NUMBER AND REPLACE IT IF IT FALLS WITHIN THE SERIAL NUMBER RANGE. REPLACEMENT OF THE AXLE WILL BE PERFORMED FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING NOVEMBER 2010. OWNERS MAY CONTACT FOREST RIVER'S WARRANTY DEPARTMENT AT 1-574-534-3167 OR DEXTER AXLE AT 1-800-2164.

**Notes:**

CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

We have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577.

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

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.

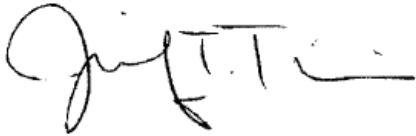
Please provide us with the beginning and ending dates for the build date range of vehicles affected by this recall.

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).

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 Delia Lopez who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525, or by email at [Delia.lopez@dot.gov](mailto:Delia.lopez@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you toward a successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jennifer Timian  
Acting Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement