



Motor Vehicle Division Informational Memo # 21-32

HARVEST PROCLAMATION 2021- Motor Carrier Services

DATE: December 30, 2021
FROM: Melissa Gillett, Director
Motor Vehicle Division
TO: Iowa Motor Carriers
Iowa Motor Truck Association
All Vehicle & Motor Carrier Services staff
Iowa DOT Motor Vehicle Enforcement

SUBJECT

This informational memo is to inform motor carriers, law enforcement, and staff about the Governor's Proclamation of Disaster Emergency issued December 2, 2021 to provide relief from regulatory provisions for motor carriers transporting soybeans, corn, hay, straw, silage, and stover.

SUMMARY

Due to concerns over a timely harvest and large amounts of agricultural truck traffic moving throughout the state, the Governor has issued a proclamation that provides relief for the following:

- Allows a vehicle to move overweight loads up to 90,000 pounds without needing to obtain a permit on non-interstate highways (Iowa Code § 321E and Iowa Administrative Code 761-511).

This regulatory relief applies to movement of loads of soybeans, corn, hay, straw, silage and stover.

HELPFUL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following questions and answers will provide additional clarification for staff and customers.

WHICH DIVISIBLE LOADS ARE ALLOWED TO TRAVEL WITHOUT PERMIT UNDER THE GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION?

Certain divisible loads may travel without permits on state highways if:

- The load is certain soybeans, corn, hay, straw, silage, and stover.
- The load does not exceed 90,000 pounds gross weight.
- The load does not exceed the maximum axle weight limit determined under the non-primary highway maximum gross weight table by more than 12.5%.
- The load does not exceed the legal maximum axle weight limit of 20,000 pounds.
- The load otherwise complies with posted limits on roads and bridges.

Under these conditions, the divisible load is authorized to travel on Iowa and US highways, excluding the interstate system, without a permit.

UNDER THIS PROCLAMATION CAN OVERWEIGHT DIVISIBLE LOADS TRAVEL ON THE INTERSTATE WITHOUT A PERMIT?

No, the Governor's proclamation is limited to Iowa highways, excluding the interstate system.

WHEN DOES THE GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION EXPIRE ?

January 29, 2022, at 11:59 p.m. unless sooner terminated or extended by the Governor.

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO CONTACT DOT REGARDING QUESTIONS?

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