Procedure: PW 007-1

Weight Restrictions on Roads

Reference: PW 007

A. Flagstaff County Permits

RoaData Services Ltd. will administer and issue, on behalf of Flagstaff County, the following types of permits for travel on its roads:

- 1. **Special "Site Specific" Permit**: This permit may be issued for a public vehicle to travel to a specific site that is only accessible by way of a banned road. This permit allows a vehicle to travel on the banned road for a maximum distance of one (1) mile, to and/or from the nearest road with a weight restriction of the next increment.
 - A vehicle may travel on the 50% restricted road at a maximum weight of 75%;
 - A vehicle may travel on the 75% restricted road at a maximum weight of 90%;
 - A vehicle may travel on the 90% restricted road at a maximum weight of 100%;
 - A vehicle may be permitted to travel on a banned road, at a maximum weight of 100%, upon review and approval of Public Works.

The permit is only valid for one (1) location, but can be issued for the entire year, expiring on December 31st.

- 2. **Regular Overload Permit**: This permit may be issued for a public vehicle to travel on a non-banned road where the public vehicle must exceed the legal weights. This permit will authorize a public vehicle to exceed its legal weight to a seasonal axle weight that is determined by Alberta Transportation.
 - **The change from season to season as indicated above will be determined by Alberta Transportation and adopted by Flagstaff County.
- 3. **Project Permit**: This permit may be issued in conjunction with a specific project and will match its duration. The permit is issued once an Overload/Weight Restriction Agreement or Multiple Load Road Use Agreement is in place.

This may include various specific sites and several different vehicles. All sections of this procedure must be adhered to in a project permit.

The project permit can be set up for divisible or non-divisible multiple loads. The project permit allows the loads to travel at 100% on a road ban. The permit will expire December 31st of each year or when the Overload/Weight Restriction Agreement or Multiple Load Road Use Agreement is expired or cancelled.

B. Permit Conditions

- 1. The County will charge a Fixed Municipal Fee for permits; please refer to the Fees and Charges Schedule. The Fixed Municipal Fee will be collected by the TRAVIS MJ permit system.
- 2. The County may contract the service of issuing permits pursuant to applicable Provincial/Federal Legislation, to any person, business or corporation.
- 3. The permit is valid only for the route/vehicle(s) specified.
 - I. All permits for a single conveyance shall expire at 12:00 midnight on the day after the permit is issued unless otherwise stated on the permit.

- II. No trips shall commence until two (2) hours has elapsed from the time the permit was issued
- III. The issuer of the permit may apply conditions to these permits as deemed necessary, and/or stated in this procedure or Provincial Legislation, to preserve the integrity of the roads and bridges in the County.
- IV. Any deviations from the conditions imposed, including route information, vehicle or vehicle combination information, and any breaches of County procedure, the Traffic Safety Act or any of its regulations shall be sufficient cause for the County to revoke or cancel the permit and to refuse further issuance of permits to the permit holder.
- V. A decision to revoke, cancel and withhold permits from a specific permit holder may be made by the Peace Officers or Public Works. Such a decision must be presented to County Council at the next Council meeting. Council has the authority to uphold, modify, or reverse the Peace Officer's or Public Works' decision.
- VI. The permit holder shall be responsible for all damages to roads as a result of their public vehicle(s) traveling on it.

C. Road Bans

- 1. A permanent ban will be placed on the following roads at the following weight restriction. These restrictions may be removed on or after the date Alberta Transportation declares winter weight allowances in effect for roads under their control. These restrictions shall be reinstated when frost levels begin to decline to the point where protection of these roads is once again required.
 - i) The following oiled surface roads will be banned at 50% in the spring, 75% in the summer and fall and 90% in the winter;
 - Rge Rd 151, North from Hwy 13 for 0.4 miles.
 - Rge Rd 425A, South from Highway 13 for 1.75 miles
 - Rge Rd 103, South from Twp Rd 425 for 1 mile
 - Twp Rd 442, East from Rge Rd 130 for 2.0 miles;
 - Rge Rd 130, North of Hwy 13 for 0.2 miles

The oiled surface road, Twp Rd 442, East from SH 869 for 0.4375 miles will follow the same road ban posting as a gravel road.

- ii) Specific gravel/dirt/sand roads will be banned at 75% year-round to reduce heavy truck traffic, please refer to the most current Flagstaff County Road Ban Order
- 2. In the spring, the County is required to protect roads from damage and <u>may</u> restrict the weight upon them, by way of a Road Ban Order, in the following manner:
 - i) All gravel/dirt/sand roads, (unless otherwise specified), at 75%;
 - ii) Arterial roads, at 100%
 - iii) Oiled surface roads as listed above, (unless otherwise specified), at 50%;
 - iv) The following paved roads:
 - a. ATCO Power Plant Road Twp Rd 410 to ATCO Power Plant 1.75 miles, at 100%
 b. County Airport Road Rge Rd 131, north for 0.75 miles from Hwy 13, at 75%
 - c. Galahad Access Road Twp Rd 412, west for 4.0 miles from Hwy 36, at 100%
 - v) All primary and secondary highways as per Alberta Transportation.

If the temperature drops to -5 degrees Celsius or colder, the 75% weight restriction on gravel roads will be exempt and a vehicle is permitted to travel on the banned road, at a maximum weight of 100%.

- 3. Winter weight allowances may be placed on roads on or after the date that Alberta Transportation declares that winter weight allowances are in effect for roads under their control. Winter weight allowances will be the same as those indicated by Alberta Transportation unless otherwise stated. Under no circumstances will they exceed the winter weight allowance indicated by Alberta Transportation. Winter weight allowances will not apply to overload permits or on any banned roadway.
- 4. No public vehicle shall exceed the maximum allowable weight for a bridge.
- 5. When a road is banned, a temporary or permanent sign indicating the weight restriction shall be posted at the beginning and end of the road and at all major intersections. Should a vehicle travel on a banned road where a sign was posted, but has been removed, damaged, struck, or fallen to the ground, the current Road Ban Order shall remain valid and the vehicle's axle weights must still be in compliance with that order.
- 6. Pursuant to the Commercial Vehicle Dimension and Weight Regulation, the following vehicles are exempt from Road Bans:
 - i) a vehicle in respect of which the combined gross weight of all the axles of the vehicle does not exceed 5000 kg;
 - ii) a school bus; as defined in the Use of Highway and Rules of the Road Regulation.
 - iii) a rubber-tired farm tractor if it is not pulling a trailer;
 - iv) a vehicle crossing a banned road;
 - v) a vehicle operated by or on behalf of the Government for the purpose of testing pavement strength;
 - vi) a vehicle transporting fresh milk or cream from where the milk or cream is produced;
 - vii) a vehicle transporting pregnant mare urine from the place where the urine is produced.
- 7. Pursuant to the Commercial Vehicle Dimension and Weight Regulation, when a road ban is in effect, the following vehicle may exceed the road ban to a maximum of **80%** without a permit:
 - i) a vehicle transporting domestic drinking water.
- 8. Pursuant to the Commercial Vehicle Dimension and Weight Regulation, when a road ban is in effect, the following vehicles may exceed the road ban to a maximum of <u>90%</u> without a permit:
 - i) a vehicle transporting bread:
 - ii) a vehicle transporting mail;
 - iii) a vehicle transporting heating fuel;
 - iv) a vehicle transporting fertilizer; or
 - v) a bus carrying passengers, other than a school bus.
- 9. Vehicles also exempt from Road Bans (to a maximum legal weight of 100%):
 - i) a vehicle transporting garbage; or
 - ii) a snowplow truck; or
 - iii) a vehicle required for emergency exceptions as defined under Part 3 Section 10 of the Commercial Vehicle Dimension and Weight Regulation.

D. Truck Routes within the Hamlets

- 1. Truck routes have been established to provide direction for heavy truck traffic in the Hamlets to preserve the road surface.
- 2. No vehicle larger than a one (1) ton or combination of vehicles, having a GVW in excess of 4,500 kg shall enter within the Hamlets of Strome and Galahad except on designated truck routes as specified in Schedule C of the Traffic Bylaw.
- 3. Should a situation arise whereby a vehicle larger than a one (1) ton or combination of vehicles, having a gross vehicle weight (GVW) in excess of 4,500 kg must travel on a hamlet street, not designated as a truck route, a person or company may apply to Flagstaff County for an Overload/Weight Restriction Agreement as per Section E of this procedure.
- 4. Delivery vehicles while making a delivery and recreational vehicles are exempt.

E. Overload/Weight Restriction Agreement

1. Should a situation arise whereby an overweight vehicle must travel on a banned road and any type of permit referred to in this procedure does not provide authority, a person or company may apply to Flagstaff County for an Overload/Weight Restriction Agreement (attached). Public Works has authority to enter into an Overload/Weight Restriction Agreement with a person or company. The agreement holder shall accept full responsibility for all damages to the road. Security under the agreement shall be in the following amounts:

\$5,000

- i) Energy or Oil/Gas & Private Trucking Companies \$25,000
- ii) Agriculture Sector/Hamlet Traffic

Security may be in the form of a certified cheque or an irrevocable letter of credit.

- 2. Should the entire trip on the banned road in question be less than one (1) mile, Public Works has the authority to issue a Special "Site Specific" Permit, without entering into an Overload/Weight Restriction Agreement.
- 3. The County will undertake a pre and post inspection of the road (s) under this agreement to assess road conditions. An administration inspection fee of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) for each road location requested shall be charged to the Company. Both pre and post inspections must be initiated by the Company. The pre and post inspection may be conducted in the presence of a representative of the Company upon the Company's request.
- 4. In addition to entering into an Overload/Weight Restriction Agreement with the County, the person or company must also obtain a Project Permit and it shall only be valid for the routes, vehicles and dates indicated.
- 5. The Project Permit issuer may apply conditions to the permit as deemed necessary to preserve the integrity of the route.
- 6. All vehicles owned or operated by the person or company, for which a Project Permit has been issued pursuant to this section, must have a copy of the Project Permit in the cab of the vehicle and produce it to a Peace Officer or County employee upon demand.
- 7. An Overload/Weight Restriction Agreement must be entered into at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to traveling on County Roads.
- 8. Under the umbrella of an Overload/Weight Restriction Agreement and Project Permit a vehicle may exceed the road ban to a maximum of 100% or legal weights but is still required to utilize the

maximum number of axles or combination of axles allowed on the vehicle or trailers and the axle weights are distributed effectively.

- 9. A person or company that has entered into an Overload/Weight Restriction Agreement with the County must report any damages immediately to the County.
- 10. After the expiration or termination of the Overload/Weight Restriction Agreement the person or company in question shall be refunded the security amount less any costs assessed for damages to any road. A detailed statement of costs shall be included with the refund, if any. Overload/Weight Restriction Agreement will expire at the end of each year.

F. Multiple Load Road Use Agreement

Where more than ten (10) loads per day will be required by the same person or company, a
Multiple Load Road Use Agreement (attached) is required. Public Works has authority to enter
into a Multiple Load Road Use Agreement with a person or company. The agreement holder
shall accept full responsibility for all damages to the road.

Agricultural producers are only required to obtain a Multiple Load Road Use Agreement from Spring Ban season to July 1st, the remainder of the year Agricultural producers are exempt to haul commodities.

- 2. The Multiple Load Road Use Agreement shall be obtained through RoaData Services Ltd. at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to traveling on County roads.
- In addition to entering into a Multiple Load Road Use Agreement with the County, the person or company must also obtain a Project Permit through RoaData Services Ltd. and it shall only be valid for the routes, vehicles and dates indicated.
- 4. The County will undertake a pre and post inspection of the road (s) under this agreement to assess road conditions. An administration inspection fee of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) shall be charged to the permit holder. The pre and post inspection may be conducted in the presence of a representative of the Agreement Holder upon the Agreement Holder's request.
- 5. The agreement holder is required to supply dust suppressant upon receiving a complaint regarding dust in front of any residence or location of concern along their haul route. MG 30, a dust suppressant or water truck will be utilized for a minimal distance of 200 meters in front of the residence or location of concern. Upon direction by Flagstaff County, additional MG 30 or a water truck may be required for the full route based on the traffic volume and/or safety concerns. This is the responsibility of the agreement holder.
- 6. The County may apply conditions to the permit as deemed necessary to preserve the integrity of the route.
- 7. All vehicles owned or operated by the person or company, for which the permit has been issued pursuant to this section, must have a copy of the permit in the cab of the vehicle and produce it to the Peace Officer or County employee upon demand.
- 8. A person or company that has entered into a Multiple Load Road Use Agreement with the County must report any damages immediately to the County.

G. Inclement Weather

Flagstaff County authorizes Public Works to delay, restrict, or prohibit travel of public vehicles on occasions where weather, such as heavy rain, has left the road surfaces in such a condition that any heavy traffic would damage the road.

H. RTAC Vehicles

RTAC Vehicles are those meeting weight and dimension standards under the Road and Transportation Association of Canada (RTAC) memorandum of understanding, adopted by the Province of Alberta and, in general, refer to tridem axle groups, trucks, trucks and trailers, and truck train combinations.

RTAC Vehicles operating on County roads do not require a permit or agreement to operate at legal axle weights, unless travel will be on a banned road or weight restricted bridge.

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