

Montana Permit Restrictions - eTRIPs

Updated 12/11/2025

TRUCKERS AGAINST TRAFFICKING (TAT) --- If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, call 911. For tips and information, call or text the Montana Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-833-406-STOP (7867) or the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888, Make the call, save lives! Visit 406stop.com or tatnonprofit.org to learn more.

General Restrictions

PERMIT SUBJECT TO ALL GENERAL CONDITIONS AND ANY INDICATED NUMBERED AND WRITTEN RESTRICTIONS, GENERAL CONDITIONS:

- Must follow posted speed limit unless otherwise restricted on permit.
- Must follow all weight restricted bridges and roads as posted.
- A legible copy of a printed or electronic permit must be carried in the assigned vehicle.
- A county or city permit may be required in addition to this permit for travel on county roads or city streets.
- Permittee is responsible to determine clearance of structures.
- Permittee is responsible to check the 511 Travel Info section at <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/travinfo/> for any road closures, width restrictions, and/or road conditions; or by calling 511.
- Permittee must comply with all State and Federal Motor Carriers Safety Regulations.
- Permittee must comply with all Laws and Administrative Rules 18.8.101 thru 18.8.1506.
- If the permit states page 1 of ?, the permit is not valid without the additional pages and any applicable attachments.
- GVW fees cannot be issued past the expiration date of the vehicle registration. Fees are not valid on an expired registration.

- **Indemnification Provision:** The applicant or permittee shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the State of Montana, its officers, employees and agents from any and all claims or actions for injuries or damage sustained by any person or property arising directly or indirectly from the issuance or use of this special permit and the activities which it authorizes. Applicant or permittee acknowledges that, under ARM 18.8.509, the carrier shall be liable for any damage to property caused by the permittee.

- **Attestation Statement:** The permittee agrees that all information provided on the permit is accurate. Failure to provide accurate information may result in permit confiscation, citations/fines, and/or suspension of permitting privileges.

#	Restriction Language
1a	Interstate highways – travel is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, up to 18 feet wide, including essential services within one-half mile of the interstate highway. Lights must be displayed full length and width in accordance with 49 CFR 393.11.
1b	Non-interstate highways – travel is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, up to 10 feet wide, 150 feet long, or 15 feet 6 inches high. Lights must be displayed full length and width in accordance with 49 CFR 393.11. Loads exceeding 10 feet wide, 150 feet long, and/or 15 feet 6 inches high may travel during daylight hours only.
1c	Holiday and holiday weekend travel on interstate highways is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, up to 18 feet wide, including essential services within one-half mile of the interstate highway. Loads exceeding 18 feet wide cannot travel on Holiday or Holiday Weekends.

Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided upon request. Please contact Motor Carrier Services at 406-444-6130 / Montana Relay 711, to request this document in a different format.

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1d	Holiday and holiday weekend travel on non-interstate highways is allowed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week for loads up to 10 feet wide, 150 feet long, and/or 15 feet 6 inches high. Loads exceeding 10 feet wide, up to 12 feet 6 inches wide may travel during daylight hours only. Loads exceeding 12 feet 6 inches wide, 150 feet long, and/or 15 feet 6 inches high cannot travel on a holiday or holiday weekend.
1e	Non-interstate highways: Loads exceeding 18 feet wide, 150 feet long, or 17 feet high, are not allowed weekend travel.
1f	To determine the clearance of structures, please visit https://www.mdt.mt.gov/business/contracting/bridge/brm.aspx . This information does not relieve the permittee from route analysis requirements and is intended for information purposes only.
1h	Loads exceeding 10 feet wide, 150 feet long, and/or 15 feet 6 inches high may only travel during daylight hours only.
3	Attention should be given to minimize delay or disruption to passenger buses. In addition, the movement of the load must not impede, hinder, and/or delay a school bus transporting children either to or from school or for school functions.
5	Holidays means New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. Holiday weekend means a period of consecutive calendar days adjacent to a holiday, during which travel is prohibited. Holiday weekend time periods include: (a) a holiday which falls on a Friday or Saturday, prohibiting travel on Friday, Saturday or Sunday; (b) a holiday which falls on a Sunday or Monday, prohibiting travel on Saturday, Sunday or Monday; (c) a holiday which falls on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, prohibiting travel on that day only; or (d) the thanksgiving holiday, prohibiting travel on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Per ARM 18.8.101
6	Raw Logs: Dimensions may not exceed: 9 feet wide or 75 feet long or 15 feet 6 inches high for a truck or a truck/tractor with one pole trailer or semi-trailer. For all other combinations, dimensions may not exceed: 95 feet long. A 5 axle log hauling combinations may not exceed 80,000 pounds gwv or 35,000 pounds on tandem axle groups. Overhang cannot exceed 15 feet, and is measured from the center of the last axle to the end of the rearmost log.
7	Mobile Homes: Annual/term permits are valid up to 16 feet 0 inches wide, 110 feet 0 inches long and 15 feet 6 inches high. This is for mobile homes or manufactured homes only as defined in 15-24-201. Towing units must have one or more dual wheel drive axles and have a minimum wheelbase of 100 inches. When a manufactured home, double wide mobile home, modular home, or modular building has been assembled, the department may allow the building to be moved as one unit, with house-moving equipment, as a building, under a special permit. Mobile home tires must conform to 49 CFR 393.75. Per ARM 18.8.509 (9) (a&b).
8	Triple vehicle combinations shall not be dispatched during adverse weather conditions, as defined in section 392.14 of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. If adverse weather or road conditions are encountered or if the road surface is icy or snow packed, the driver of the triple vehicle combination shall proceed to the next available exit or turnout and drop a trailer or wait for conditions to improve. Travel conditions can be found on MDT's travel information page https://www.mdt.mt.gov/travinfo/

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9a	<p>Triples & 100 Foot Doubles: travel allowed on interstate only & within a two mile radius of an interstate interchange. Travel during hours of darkness provided full length & width of the vehicle combination is lighted. Maximum length for triples is 105 feet and 0 inches cabover or truck; 110 feet and 0 inches for conventional, this is inclusive of the front & rear bumpers & overhang; doubles 100 foot combination (overall) length. Loads may not exceed 65 MPH or posted speed limit whichever is less.</p>
9b	<p>95 Foot Doubles: If combined trailer length is within maximum allowed dimensions, the combination length of 95 feet does not apply. If combined trailer length exceeds maximum allowed dimensions, the combination length may not exceed 95 feet. Combinations with double trailers have a maximum of 81 feet combined trailer length. Combinations with double trailers hauling hay or returning unladen after delivery have a maximum of 88 feet combined trailer length. The 88 feet of combined trailer length does not apply to a vehicle combination transporting commodities other than hay.</p>
10	<p>Baled Hay: Maximum dimensions of 9 feet 6 inches wide for small square bales, 10 feet wide for large square bales without a hay rack, 12 feet wide for large square bales with a hay rack, and 12 feet wide for large round bales or empty trailers with a hay rack. Maximum dimension of 15 feet 6 inches high for all types of baled hay.</p>
11	<p>Truck Tractor-Semitrailer combinations: Semitrailer must not exceed 57 feet in length.</p>
12	<p>MT Implement Dealer: may not be restricted by weekend travel, holiday travel. Requirements for lighting, pilot vehicles and daylight travel apply to implements depending on dimensions. The permit is transferrable between equipment registered to a Montana implement dealer, but not another dealer. Dimensions are determined by the dealer.</p>
13	<p>Weight mileage (legal axle, exceeding bridge): Permit is issued for legal axle weights but is in excess of bridge measurements under 61-10-107 MCA. Non reducible loads only.</p>
14	<p>Term overweight (excess axle weight): No axle may exceed 5,000 pounds of excess weight. 20,000 pounds in excess axle weight permit, with no single axle exceeding 5,000 pounds in excess axle weight and no tandem axle exceeding 15,000 pounds in excess axle weight. Weight permits for all loads exceeding 10,000 lbs to 40,000 must have a vehicle weight analysis for the configurations that is being used.</p>
15	<p>10% tolerance permit: Permit issued to the first location where load can be adjusted or reduced to statutory weights. 10% tolerance permit: permit issued to garbage trucks only to the first location where load can be adjusted or reduced to statutory weights.</p>
17	<p>Bridge centerline slowdown and speed restrictions on all highways: loads may not exceed 55 mph or posted speed limit whichever is less, only one overweight vehicle is allowed on a bridge at a time, stopping or shifting gears on any bridge is prohibited. Interstate: no pilot vehicles required unless additionally added restrictions specify. Non-interstate: must reduce speed to 10 mph before and centerline bridges. Must maintain at least 2 feet from the shoulder. A minimum of two pilot vehicles are required as defined in ARM 18.8.510(A): one front and one in the rear. No simultaneous vehicles on the bridge with overweight load. When movement requires pilot vehicles, the permittee must not delay traffic in excess of 15 minutes, per ARM 18.8.509(8)(d).</p>

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18	Bridge slowdown and speed restrictions on all highways: loads may not exceed 55 mph or posted speed limit whichever is less, only one overweight vehicle allowed on a bridge at a time, stopping or shifting gears on any bridge prohibited. Non-interstate daylight hours only, must reduce speed to 10 mph while crossing bridges remaining in the driving lane and provide a minimum of one rear pilot vehicle as defined in ARM 18.8.510(A). When movement requires pilot vehicles, the permittee must not delay traffic in excess of 15 minutes, per ARM 18.8.509(8)(d).
19	Logging Equipment: Maximum of 15 feet wide, 15 feet 6 inches high, and 95 feet long.
20	Temporary Trip Permit: Valid for one trip only, maximum of 72 hours and becomes void upon leaving the state. Not to be used in lieu of other fees when gainfully employed in Montana. If exceeding time of trip permit, permittee must license with the county as RPO. Further details can be found at https://www.mdt.mt.gov/business/mcs/licenses.shtml .
21	Trailer Temporary Permit: Permit issued to a trailer which is not currently registered; or, has no registration in possession; or, the registration is illegible.
22	Temporary Fuel Permit: No IFTA license in possession. Permit valid for 72 hours and becomes void upon leaving the state.
23	Custom Combine: Combine permit must be made available by the company upon request. A 20% tolerance will be given for a 100-air mile radius from the harvested field to the first point of unloading. The oversize portion of custom combine permits is not valid for operations other than those specific to custom combines. Per 18.8.426 (6&7)
24	Overweight Load: Loads or vehicles exceeding the legal weight limits are not required to reduce if it compromises the intended use of the vehicle or load, or destroys the value of the vehicle or load, or requires more than 8 hours to dismantle. If criteria is not met, the load must reduce.
25	The carrier shall be liable for any damages to property caused by the permittee. Failure to correct damage to department property may result in revocation of permit privileges. Repairs not completed within a reasonable timeframe may be repaired by the department and costs billed to the permittee.
26	Eureka-BC weight permit: Valid only between British Columbia to 10 miles South on US-93. Operation is valid only with oversize and overweight permit. A train-118,000 gross; 7 axle B-train-124,600 gross; B train-137,500 gross & not to exceed Steering 12,100 pounds; dual tire-single axle 20,000 pounds; tandem 37,500 pounds; tridem 46,300 pounds with axle spacing 7 feet 10 inches to less than 9 feet 10 inches or 50,700 pounds with axle spacing 9 feet 10 inches to less than 11 feet 9 inches or 52,900 pounds with axle spacing 11 feet 9 inches to 12 feet 2 inches.
27	When movement requires pilot vehicles, the permittee must not delay traffic in excess of 15 minutes per ARM 18.8.509(8)(d).
28	Superload (class 1) – Loads exceeding 18 feet wide up to 34 feet wide, 17 feet high up to 24 feet high, and/or 150 feet long up to 200 feet long, must obtain the appropriate department district administrator or designee approval of a completed super-load permit application. The department's decision on a complete super-load application for these dimensions must be issued within two working days of a properly completed application submittal. At the discretion of the MCS administrator or designee, any restricted travel may be waived.

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29	Superload (class 2) Loads exceeding 34 feet wide, 24 feet high, and/or 200 feet long must obtain the appropriate department district administrator or designee approval of the super-load permit application. The department's decision on a super-load application for these dimensions must be issued within five working days of a properly completed application submittal. At the discretion of the MCS administrator or designee, any restricted travel may be waived.
30	Alberta-Shelby Canadian weight permit: Valid only between Shelby MT and the Montana-Alberta border at Sweet Grass on I-15. Operation is valid only with oversize and overweight permit. A train-118,000 gross; 7 axle B-train-124,600 gross; B train-137,500 gross & not to exceed Steering 12,100 pounds; dual tire-single axle 20,000 pounds; tandem 37,500 pounds; tridem 46,300 pounds with axle spacing 7 feet 10 inches to less than 9 feet 10 inches or 50,700 pounds with axle spacing 9 feet 10 inches to less than 11 feet 9 inches or 52,900 pounds with axle spacing 11 feet 9 inches to 12 feet 2 inches.
31	Nonresident custom combine operations: Permits are issued to cover registration, gross vehicle weight fees, size & weight, & fuel requirements. Detailed information is available by contacting MCS, PO Box 4639, Helena, MT 59602 (2701 Prospect Ave.) phone (406) 444-6130. Resident custom combine operations: custom combine trucks & trailers licensed under IRP or with full Montana license & displaying Montana registration are fully licensed in Montana. Tolerance: when used to transport agricultural products, a truck authorized to be used under a custom combine special permit may be operated only within a 100-air mile radius of the harvested field to the point of first unloading. The truck may not haul agricultural products from one commercial elevator to another commercial elevator. The truck may be operated on any highway except one that is part of the federal interstate system, without incurring excess weight penalties under 61-10-145. If the total gross weight of the truck does not exceed allowable weight limitations by more than 20% per axle & the maximum load per inch of tire width does not exceed 670 pounds. If the truck exceeds the tolerance provided under this subsection, the fine or penalty imposed applies to all weight over the legal limit allowed by 61-10-107.
32	Regulations and equipment for pilot vehicles as defined in ARM 18.8.510(A) - A pilot vehicle may be any passenger car or two-axle truck a minimum of 60 inches wide. The maximum manufacturer's rating for the pilot vehicle shall not exceed a gross vehicle weight rating of 14,000 pounds. Service or mechanic trucks owned or contracted by the permittee and used as a pilot vehicle shall not exceed a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 pounds. A pilot vehicle may not exceed legal limits of size and weight. Trucks used as pilot vehicles shall be clearly distinguished from and identifiable as the escort vehicle. A pilot vehicle may pull a trailer or carry any item or equipment which is within legal limits of size and weight, allows an unobstructed view of the flashing lights and signs used by the pilot vehicle, complies with all state traffic laws; and possesses current registration and valid insurance. Service or mechanic trucks used as a pilot vehicle must not have a utility box which extends above the cab more than 12 inches or beyond the width of the cab more than 6 inches on either side. A sign with the words "oversize load" or similar wording shall be visible from the front of the vehicle and rear of the vehicle at all times when piloting an oversize load. Letters shall not be less than 8 inches in height. The letters shall be black in color on a yellow colored background with the exception of digital signs. When not being operated as a pilot vehicle, signs must be removed. On the power unit, flashing amber lights, a minimum of five inches in diameter, 50 candlepower, 60 to 90 flashes per minute, shall be mounted at each end of the oversize load sign and visible 360 degrees. A revolving light or strobe light may be substituted for flashing lights. Lights shall be flashing at all times when moving an oversize vehicle or load. All pilot vehicles shall be equipped with two-way communication. Pilot vehicles must remain within 1,000 feet of the permitted vehicle or load.

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33	<p>Bypass restrictions require that regardless of receiving a bypass signal, a driver must enter an open weighing location when any of the following conditions apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overweight (including permitted loads) • Overwidth greater than 10 feet (including permitted loads) • Overheight greater than 15 feet 6 inches (including permitted loads) • Overlength greater than 120 feet (including permitted loads) • Oversize in excess of legal dimensions without a valid permit <p>https://prepass.com/resource-library/ go to Bypass Restriction by State documentation https://drivewyze.com/bypass-restrictions/</p>
34	<p>Regulations and equipment for vehicles or loads exceeding 10 feet wide: A sign with the words "oversize load" or similar wording which must be mounted at any visible height on the front and rear of the load. Letters shall not be less than 8 inches in height. The letters shall be black in color on a yellow colored background with the exception of digital signs. On the power unit, flashing amber lights, a minimum of five inches in diameter, 50 candlepower, 60 to 90 flashes per minute, shall be mounted at each end of the oversize load sign and visible 360 degrees. A revolving light or strobe light may be substituted for flashing lights. Lights shall be flashing at all times when moving an oversize vehicle or load per ARM 18.8.510B(1)(a&b). Oversize load signs must be removed from the vehicle upon completion of the highway movement which necessitated the signs.</p>
36	<p>Snow removal equipment up to 18 feet 0 inches wide on a trip permit, or 15 feet 0 inches wide on a term permit, may travel 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on all highways while engaged in snow removal operations. Snow removal equipment operating under ARM 18.8.509(8)(c), (i) Snow removal equipment operating under ARM 18.8.509 is not subject to pilot vehicle requirements under ARM 18.8.511A or oversize load sign requirements under ARM 18.8.510B(1)(a).</p>
36a	<p>Pilot vehicle requirements: (Interstate only) loads exceeding 16 feet 6 inches wide to 18 feet wide must have one rear pilot vehicle. Vehicles exempted under 61-10-102(2)(a), MCA may only travel during hours of darkness with one rear pilot vehicle per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(b)(i)</p>
36b	<p>Pilot vehicle requirements: (Interstate only) loads exceeding 18 feet wide must have at least two rear pilot vehicles side by side. Vehicles exempted under 61-10-102(2)(a), MCA may only travel during hours of darkness with two rear pilot vehicles per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(b)(ii).</p>
36c	<p>Pilot vehicle requirements: loads exceeding 17 feet high to 24 feet high must have one front pilot vehicle equipped with a height pole and/or any other equivalent device detecting overhead dimensions per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(c).</p>
36d	<p>Pilot vehicle requirements: loads exceeding 24 feet high must have one front pilot vehicle equipped with a height pole and/or any other equivalent device detecting overhead dimensions and one rear pilot per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(d).</p>
37a	<p>Pilot vehicle requirements: (non-interstate only) loads exceeding 12 feet 6 inches wide to 16 feet 6 inches wide must have one front pilot vehicle per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(a)(i).</p>
37b	<p>Pilot vehicle requirements: (non-interstate only) loads exceeding 16 feet 6 inches wide to 18 feet wide must have one front and one rear pilot vehicle per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(a)(ii). Loads exempted under 61-10-102(5) shall not require a rear pilot vehicle.</p>
37c	<p>Pilot vehicle requirements: (non-interstate only) loads exceeding 18 feet wide to 24 feet wide must have at least two front and one rear pilot vehicles per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(a)(iii).</p>

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37d	Pilot vehicle requirements: (non-interstate only) loads exceeding 24 feet wide must have at least two front and two rear pilot vehicles per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(a)(iv).
37e	Pilot vehicle requirements: (non-interstate only) loads exceeding 150 feet long must have one rear pilot vehicle per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(a)(v).
37f	Pilot vehicle requirements: (non-interstate only) loads exceeding 200 feet long must have one front and one rear pilot vehicle per ARM 18.8.511A(1)(a)(vi).
39	No travel is allowed when a route has been placed under severe driving conditions as determined by the department per ARM 18.8.509 (6)
41	Must notify all local emergency services prior to travel in their jurisdiction as to route, time, and date of move to make arrangements in the event of emergency. Emergency services would include all local law enforcement, fire, ambulance affected by this move.
42	If you are transporting a boat or any type of marine equipment and your final destination is within Montana you will need to contact the AIS Bureau with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks at (406) 444-2440 during business hours prior to entry/movement in Montana. It is illegal to transport aquatic invasive species across state lines. In order to avoid delays be sure to clean, drain, and dry vessels and equipment prior to entering Montana.
43	Any nonresident person operating a special fuel-powered vehicle over 26,000 pounds gross vehicle weight or registered gross vehicle weight upon the public roads and highways of this state who is using the vehicle for the movement of that person's agricultural products, and who is not covered under the International Fuel Tax Agreement. The permit is not valid for contract custom haulers. The permit is valid for a radius of 70 miles from a point specified on the permit.
44	Plentywood-SK weight permit: Valid only between the MT / Saskatchewan border to 20 miles South on MT-16. Operation is valid only with oversize and overweight permit. A train-118,000 gross; 7 axle B-train-124,600 gross; B train-137,500 gross & not to exceed Steering 12,100 pounds; dual tire-single axle 20,000 pounds; tandem 37,500 pounds; tridem 46,300 pounds with axle spacing 7 feet 10 inches to less than 9 feet 10 inches or 50,700 pounds with axle spacing 9 feet 10 inches to less than 11 feet 9 inches or 52,900 pounds with axle spacing 11 feet 9 inches to 12 feet 2 inches.
45	All vehicles registered over 55,000 lbs. must have a current 2290 HVUT (Heavy Vehicle Use Tax) on file with the IRS.
46	Travel on MT-35 is restricted between Polson and Bigfork for all loads exceeding 9 feet wide with the exception of loads that have an origin or destination between those locations. Please refer to MDT's website at www.mdt.mt.gov or 511 for further information.
47	US-87: between Belt and Raynesford (EB and WB): there is a width restriction of 12 feet 6 inches wide. The detours for EB and WB are: 1) WB: Raynesford, MT (WB detoured) to Great Falls, MT: U-87, S-427, US-89, US-87. 2) EB: Great Falls, MT (EB detoured) to Raynesford, MT: US-87, US-89, S-427, US-87 (this is a permanent restriction)
48	In accordance with Administrative Rule 18.8.519, wreckers or tow vehicle configurations towing from an emergency scene or place of disablement to the operator's place of business/yard must be within 100 miles of the emergency scene or place of disablement. (Combinations may include double and triple saddle mount configurations, non-divisible loads, or unusual combinations not readily separated).

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49	Bus Term Excess Weight permit is shown for 5,000 lb in excess weight, the condition on this permit is for the max weight on a single axle of 24,000 pounds.
51	The permittee shall check MDT's traveler information page before using the wintertime weight permit to verify winter weights or bridge limits are still in effect. If / when an email is received from MDT regarding the frost law stating that this permit is no longer valid for the year, the carrier will not be able to use this permit. The carrier must provide and maintain an active email address on your MT Permitting account and on this permit.
52	The wintertime weight permit is not valid for interstate travel or weight restricted roads and bridges.
53	It is the permittees responsibility to verify routes prior to travel.
54	The wintertime weight permit may not be used for additional weight to exceed any other overweight permit. The maximum weight allowed is 132,000 lbs.
60	The weights on this permit are valid for interstate travel only. Any deviations of weights, spacing's and routes may result in a violation of this permit. Reasonable accommodation for access allowed within 2 miles of the interstate given no bridges are crossed, you will need to plan accordingly. Loads may not exceed 55 mph or posted speed limit whichever less, only one overweight vehicle allowed on a bridge at a time, stopping or shifting gears on any bridge is prohibited. Interstate: no pilot vehicles required unless additionally added restrictions specify.