

## APPENDIX 18

### PILOT CAR DETERMINATION AND CRITERIA

Pilot car(s) shall be required for the following conditions:

- (a) If the front overhang of a load exceeds 25'0" when measured from the front bumper or, if there is no front bumper, from the front tires. (CVC 35406A)
- (b) If the boom or mast of a crane, drill rig or well servicing equipment extends more than 25'0" beyond the front of the front tires. (CVC 35407)
- (c) If the rear load projection exceeds 25'0" when measured from the rear extremity of the hauling equipment.
- (d) Pilot cars will not be required for the maximum permissible rear boom overhang of 30'0" when measured from the center of the last axle of the boom support vehicle. The "exemption" letter from the insurance company is no longer valid.
- (e) If the unsupported rear boom overhang of a truck crane exceeds 30'0" when measured from the last point of support. The last point of support (for enforcement purposes) is defined as the rearmost point on the vehicle bed or body supporting the load.
- (f) Generally, if load width exceeds lane width and, if because of length and/or width, the load and/or vehicle will encroach into the adjacent lanes. This assessment will be based on an analysis of the lane width and/or alignment of the roadway. The assignment will be based upon the classifications and dimensions of the following chart. Pilot cars will normally not be required when 11' to 12' permit vehicles/loads are traversing an urban freeway facility where the right lane has been reduced to less than 12'. In some circumstances, they will be required.
- (g) Pilot cars for 10-foot wide mobile homes shall be in accordance with the "Prohibited State Routes and Pilot Car Requirements" attachment, date 1982, or revised as necessary.
- (h) Pilot car for movements into, or through, "Route Classification 'E'" (red routes) will be determined by the District Permit Engineer.

\*\* One additional pilot car may be required for slow moving vehicles or slow moving vehicles with loads.



\*\*\* Where CHP escort is required, the District Permit Engineer may reduce or eliminate pilot cars with the concurrence of the CHP.

Height poles will not be a Caltrans requirement. If requested by a permittee, a pilot car will be permitted and identified as a permittee request.

**APPENDIX 19**  
**PILOT CAR TABLE FOR CALIFORNIA**

Route Classification	Load or Vehicle Width				Vehicle Combination Length		
	Over 10'	Over 11'	Over 12'	13'-1" 14'-6"	Over 85'	Over 100'	Over 120'
A Yellow	----	----	1	1	----	----	1
B Green	----	----	1	See Note 1	----	1	1
C Blue	----	1	1	2	----	1	2
D Brown	1	1	2	2	*	1	2
E Red	Moves into or through these areas are not permitted without prior consultation with the District Permit Engineer. This restriction will not preclude its use on an annual permit with maximum width and/or length restrictions.						

**ROUTE CLASSIFICATION DEFINITIONS:**

Multilane freeways and expressways. Two Lane w/12' lane plus 4' shoulder or more.

Two lane w/12' lane plus any shoulder width 0 to 4'. Multilane freeways and expressways w/substandard lanes.

- C - Two lane w/11' plus any or no shoulder.
- D - Two lane w/10' lane plus any or no shoulder. (Some less than 10' lane.)
- E - Two lane w/less than 10' lane where there is another alternative route to use (some State and some County alternatives routes.)

**Note 1:** 1 Pilot car for Multilane; 2 Pilot Cars for 2 Lanes. Permit Engineer may reduce to one (1) Pilot car at his option.

- \* If significant encroachment occurs with loads or combinations, pilot car(s) shall be required.

When one of the above listed holidays falls on Monday or Friday, permit movements will not be allowed on the holiday for the day immediately preceding or following weekend, unless authorized on the face of the permit.

Restriction on the time of move may be imposed on certain highways where, due to a holiday, a substantial increase in traffic volume is recorded. Alternate routes should be used where available.

#### **14. MOVING IN INCLEMENT WEATHER**

Movement shall not occur in fog, rain or wind when visibility is restricted to less than 1,000 feet. Movement is prohibited when road surfaces are hazardous to rain. No moving shall be done when the velocity of the wind is such that it causes the vehicle being towed to whip or swerve from side-to-side or fail to flow substantially in the path of the towing vehicle. Any accident caused by excessive wind or weather conditions shall be considered a *prima facie* violation of this condition.

#### **15. MOVEMENT IN CONVOY**

Movement in convoy shall not be permitted unless specified on the face of the permit.

#### **16. LOAD SIGNS**

All loads or vehicles being moved on city highways which exceed 8 ft. 6 in. in width, 80 ft. in length or more than 10 ft. overhang shall display appropriate warning signs.

Signs shall be posted on front and rear and shall read "LONG LOAD" OR "OVERSIZE". The "LONG LOAD" sign shall be used whenever overall length exceeds 100 ft. The "OVERSIZE" sign shall be used for shorter lengths and other oversize features. The more definitive signs reading "WIDE LOAD", "LONG LOAD", "OVERSIZE LOAD", "EXCESSIVE FRONT OVERHANG" OR EXCESSIVE REAR OVERHANG" may be substituted for the "OVERSIZE" sign when appropriate. The "LONG LOAD" sign shall have preference when length exceeds 100 feet and other oversize features exist. The lettering shall be a 10-inch minimum height and a 1 5/8 inch minimum brush stroke, and a minimum 1 inch margin all around. All signs shall be black letters on a yellow background, mounted at least 18 inches above the road surface front and rear. Signs shall be neat, clean, legible, mounted securely and visible from straight ahead or behind and to 45 degrees either side thereof.

#### **17. PILOT CAR AND EQUIPMENT**

Vehicles exceeding 65 feet in length and/or ~~12~~<sup>11</sup> feet in width require pilot cars. The Sheriff's Traffic Division must be contacted before each trip when using pilot cars. It shall be the responsibility of the permittee to ensure that pilot car vehicles and operators are equipped and briefed as to their duties prior to movement. Pilot cars shall be single vehicles with a minimum of 60 inches in width, and may operate with a nondestructive vertical clearance measuring device with height in excess of 14 feet.

Pilot cars shall be equipped with:

- a. One each STOP/SLOW sign paddle;
- b. One each orange vest, shirt or jacket;
- c. One each red hand flag (18 in. x 18 in. minimum);
- d. Two-way radio communication between the pilot car(s) and the transporting vehicle;
- e. Top-mounted flashing amber warning light(s). The light(s) shall be visible to the front when leading and to the rear when following, and shall be operated at all times when escorting a permit load. Lights shall be removed or covered with opaque material when not escorting movement described on Permit. (CVC 25270).