



STEVE SISOLAK  
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
1263 S. Stewart Street  
Carson City, Nevada 89712

KRISTINA L. SWALLOW, P.E., Director

In Reply Refer to:

**NDOT OVER DIMENSIONAL PERMITS INSTRUCTION 2-21**

Date: July 26, 2021

Subject: Special Procedures and Conditions for Tridem Axle Combinations

Reference: (a) NRS 484D.600 through NRS 484D.860  
(b) NAC 484D.625 through NAC 484D.660

1. **Purpose.** To implement procedures for issuing single trip permits to vehicles with tridem axle combinations and carrying non-reducible loads up to 60,000 lbs.
2. **Background.** Tridem axle combinations are commonplace and are authorized by many of Nevada’s surrounding states. In order to facilitate commerce and interstate travel on Nevada roadways, NDOT has studied the potential impact on the highway infrastructure and determined that with some restrictions permitting tridem axle combinations is feasible and beneficial. References (a) and (b) require permits for vehicles with tridem axle combinations weighing over 42,000 pounds.

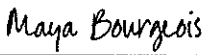
3. **Procedures and Conditions**

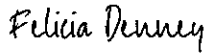
- a. Routing will be based on purple loading and the total number of axles of the vehicle.
- b. Tridem bonus purple group axle weight will be determined based on the following:

Ft/In	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8	57,960	58,061	58,161	58,262	58,363	58,463	58,564	58,664	58,765	58,866	58,966	59,067
9	59,168	59,268	59,369	59,469	59,570	59,671	59,771	59,872	59,973	60,000	60,000	60,000
10	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx

- Note 1: No Increased allowances for axle widths over 10’4” with 4 tires per axle or for axle widths less than 10’4” ft with 8 tires per axle.
  - Note 2: Maximum of 25% increase in table weights up to 60,000 lb maximum for axles 10’4” wide or wider with 8 tires per axle.
- c. Maximum of two bonus purple weight tridem axle combinations per vehicle combination.
  - d. Minimum of 8 feet and maximum of 10’4” from the first axle to third axle in any tridem axle combination.

- e. Minimum of 25 feet between the centerline of any axle of a bonus weight tridem axle combination to the centerline of any axle of another bonus weight tridem axle combination.
  - f. Minimum of 18 feet between any two axles of a tridem axle combination and the closest axle of any adjacent axle group (i.e., close coupling is not authorized).
  - g. Minimum of 8 feet wide at the outside tire bulge.
  - h. These guidelines do not apply to annual permits.
  - i. Requests for permits that exceed the specifications described herein will be routed to Structural Design Division for analysis, restrictions and concurrence/disapproval.
  - j. These guidelines are similar to those established by Caltrans (TPPM 2009-02 (Revised), Tridem Bonus Purple).
4. **Action.** All Permit Agents will comply with this instruction, maintain a copy of this instruction in their desktop procedures, and provide a copy to applicable permit holders.
5. **Supersedes.** NDOT Over Dimensional Permits Instruction 2-06 dated December 14, 2006.

DocuSigned by:  
  
F1997A329E15462  
Maya Bourgeois  
Administrative Services Officer III

DocuSigned by:  
  
B02A46177414466  
Felicia Denney  
Assistant Director, Administrative Services

CC: Permit Agents (2)  
Mario Gomez, District I Engineer  
Mike Fuess, District II Engineer  
Boyd Ratliff, District III Engineer  
Rodney Schilling, Traffic Operations Division  
Mark Wooster, Traffic Information Systems Division  
Wayne Miller, Equipment Division  
Jessen Mortensen, Structural Design Division  
Mike Premo, Structural Design Division  
Mohammad Abbasi, Structural Design Division  
Lt. Plowman, Commercial Operations, NHP  
Richard Wagner, Motor Carrier Division, DMV

Enclosure (1)

**AUTHORIZED TRIDEM AXLE COMBINATIONS AND BONUS WEIGHT SITUATIONS**

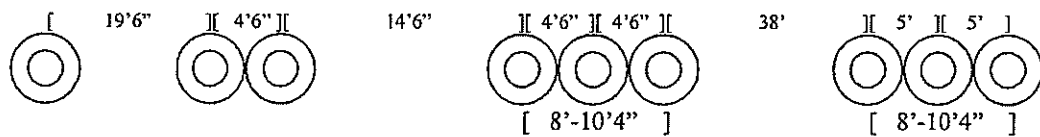
Ft/In	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8	57,960	58,061	58,161	58,262	58,363	58,463	58,564	58,664	58,765	58,866	58,966	59,067
9	59,168	59,268	59,369	59,469	59,570	59,671	59,771	59,872	59,973	60,000	60,000	60,000
10	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx

**Element 1:** Authorized tridem axle group. Must be 8' to 10'4" from the 1st axle to the 3rd axle in group.

**Element 2:** Tridem bonus weight authorized on only one authorized tridem axle group. In addition to Element 1, minimum of 18 ft. between any 2 axles of a tridem axle combination and the closest axle of any adjacent axle group (i.e., close coupling is not authorized). Bonus weight per chart above.

**Element 3:** Tridem bonus weight authorized on one or two authorized tridem axle group(s). In addition to Elements 1 and 2, minimum of 25 ft. between the centerline of any axle of a bonus weight tridem axle combination to the centerline of any axle of another bonus weight tridem axle combination. Maximum of two bonus tridems on any vehicle combination.

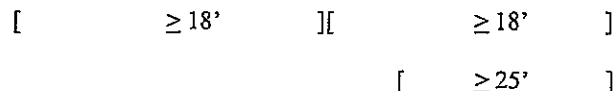
**EXAMPLE A**



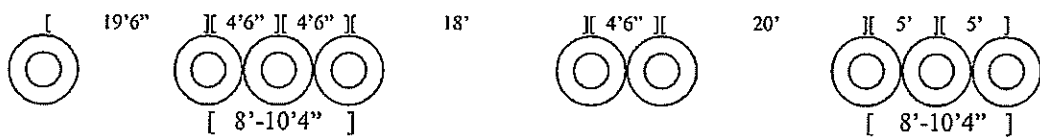
**Element 1**

**Element 2**

**Element 3**



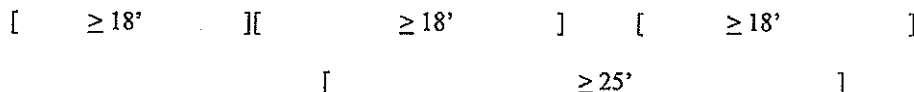
**EXAMPLE B**



**Element 1**

**Element 2**

**Element 3**



Revised 7/26/21