

FRANKLIN COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

POLICY AND PROCEDURE STATEMENT

G.P.P. 3

SUBJECT: Emergency Load Restrictions

EFFECTIVE: November 4, 1993

ISSUED BY: 

Tim Fife, P.E. /
Public Works Director/County Engineer

Policy

It is the policy of Franklin County Public Works Department to impose load restrictions on certain Franklin County roads when field investigation indicates that substantial damage may be incurred during a thawing period. An over-all general frost penetration greater than four inches (4") will normally make a level of restriction necessary. Restrictions will be imposed in accordance with R.C.W. 46.44.080. Annual resolutions signed by the Board of County Commissioners will authorize the restrictions for a period of time set forth in the resolution.

Procedure

1. Road Maintenance personnel will investigate frost penetration and notify their respective Road Supervisor.
2. The County Engineer will make the final decision as to when and if to impose road restrictions. The Road Superintendent or his designee shall contact known effected persons or companies by phone and issue a news release to the newspaper and local radios that restrictions are going into effect.
3. The restricted areas will be posted and flagged with attached signs listing the maximum allowable weights per number and size of tires. Any load in excess of the posted maximum will be considered in violation.

4. When the Road Superintendent determines that the restrictions can be removed for prolonged periods, the affected restriction signs will be covered, with subsequent immediate notification by the Superintendent to the Engineer's Office.
5. Office personnel shall keep and maintain a map showing restricted areas. It shall be the office personnel's responsibility to make periodic changes on the map immediately after notification.
6. As time permits, each Supervisor shall reconfirm restricted roads within their respective areas, either by phone or radio.
7. It is the intent of the Department to cooperate with requests for movement of loads of perishable commodities or commodities necessary for the health and welfare of local residents, in accordance with R.C.W. 46.44.080, when the load of such commodities cannot be broken down to provide a gross load meeting the posted restrictions. All such loads will be by a per trip basis provided a trip permit has been issued by the County Engineer. The trip permit shall set forth the speed restrictions and other conditions as deemed necessary by the Department. Copies of the issued trip permit shall be kept on file.
8. School buses will be permitted to operate at normal loading but are restricted to the speed limit applicable to the posted restrictions.
9. Authorized emergency vehicles are permitted to operate normally when on actual emergency runs.