

Safe Movement Guideline | Non-complying beach trailers used by Surf Life Saving Queensland

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Part 1 - Introduction

1. Purpose of the guideline

This safe movement guideline provides guidance in relation to the exemptions and requirements for non-complying beach trailers used by Surf Life Saving Queensland to access the road network.

2. How this guideline should be used

This guideline is designed to assist Surf Life Saving Queensland to use non-complying beach trailers that meet the requirements in Part 2 of this guideline.

3. Guideline authority

This guideline is issued under the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management—Vehicle Standards and Safety) Regulation 2021* section 53, in accordance with the Statutory Instruments Act 1992 section 22.

4. Definitions

Unless otherwise stated, words and expressions used in the guideline have the same meanings as those defined in the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995* or the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management – Vehicle Standards and Safety) Regulation 2021*.

Beach trailer means a trailer with an aggregate trailer mass not exceeding 4,500kg that is designed and constructed to support surf life saving operations in Queensland. Examples of beach trailers are shown in Part – 3 *Appendices, Appendix A – Types of Beach Trailers*.

Emergency Service means either:

- (a) the Queensland Ambulance Service or an ambulance service of another State; or
- (b) the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service or a fire and rescue service of another State; or
- (c) the Queensland Police Service or the police service of the Commonwealth or another State.

Surf Life Saving Queensland means Surf Life Saving Queensland (ABN 27 360 485 381) it's regional branches and affiliated clubs.

Vehicle Standards Bulletin 1 means the National Code of Practice: Building Small Trailers, as published by the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development.

Note: Vehicle Standards Bulletin 1 is available from the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development's website <https://infrastructure.gov.au/>

VSS Regulation means the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management – Vehicle Standards and Safety) Regulation 2021*.

5. Exemptions to vehicle standards

This guideline is issued as an alternative means of complying with Schedule 1 of the VSS regulation.

Part 2 - Requirements

1. General requirements

- 1.1 In consideration of the purpose of use, the Department of Transport and Main Roads requires that where possible, Surf Life Saving Queensland use trailers that are manufactured to comply with Vehicle Standards Bulletin 1.
- 1.2 A beach trailer must be in a safe condition.
- 1.3 The driver of a vehicle towing a beach trailer must hold the appropriate class of driver licence.
- 1.4 A beach trailer must only be used on the routes permitted and in accordance with the conditions listed in this guideline.
- 1.5 Vehicle operators must comply with all lawful direction/requests from an officer of an emergency service or another authorised officer.
- 1.6 As the beach trailers are unregistered, an authorisation to use an unregistered vehicle on the road or road related area pursuant to section 13 of the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management-Vehicle Registration) Regulation 2021* must be approved and issued to Surf Life Saving Queensland prior to towing unregistered beach trailers.
- 1.7 Adequate Public Liability insurance cover must be obtained by Surf Life Saving Queensland of the authorised vehicles and must be current for the duration of the authorisation. The insurance policy must expressly cover personal injury to a person caused by or involving an unregistered vehicle that is used on a road pursuant to an authorisation, issued under section 13 of the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management – Vehicle Registration) Regulation 2021*.
- 1.8 The holder of this authorisation shall indemnify the Director-General, Department of Transport and Main Roads and his delegate against any claim, action or process for damage or injury which may be sustained against him by reason of the use of the beach trailer as specified.
- 1.9 A beach trailer must comply with the vehicle standards specified for the type of trailer mentioned in Part 2, Section 7.
- 1.10 The towing capacity of the towing vehicle must be sufficient to safely stop the combination when travelling at the speed permitted by this guideline.

2. Road Access Limitations

- 2.1 The beach trailer is restricted to operating on the shortest and most direct routes for surf life saving purposes:
 - (a) from the club house to the beach; or
 - (b) from the beach to the club house; or
 - (c) any other route when directed to do so by an officer of an emergency service.
- 2.2 A route permitted by Part 2 subsection 2.1 can include travel across a road or footpath or through a public carpark.
- 2.3 A beach trailer can only be towed by a standard 4WD vehicle registered to Surf Life Saving Queensland.

3. Vehicle Identification and descriptions

- 3.1 As beach trailers are manufactured for specific purposes and do not meet Australian Design Rules, beach trailers must be clearly marked and identifiable as Surf Life Saving Queensland equipment.

4. Speed Limitations

- 4.1 The maximum speed permitted for the beach trailers is 10km/h.

5. Time of Day Limitations

- 5.1 A beach trailer is only permitted to travel between sunrise and sunset.
- 5.2 A beach trailer may be used between sunset and sunrise for training purposes, provided Part 2 subsection 2.2 is complied with.
- 5.3 This condition does not apply to use in accordance with Part 2 subsection 2.1(c) .

6. Special Lights Requirements

- 6.1 Special lamps must be attached and lit during specified use only (for example, when the vehicle operator considers that the towing vehicle and beach trailer is likely to cause danger to other road users or create a hazard). A combination which includes a beach trailer operating under this condition must be fitted with a flashing light that complies with all of the following specifications:
- (a) Emit a rotating or flashing yellow coloured light
 - (b) Flash between 120 and 200 times per minute
 - (c) Have a power of at least:
 - (i) if LED technology is used – 25 watts; or
 - (ii) if another technology is used – 55 watts.
 - (d) Must be clearly visible at a distance of 500m in all directions, or be supplemented by one or more additional warning lights so that the emitting light from at least one of them is clearly visible at a distance of 500 m in any direction.
 - (e) Must only be switched on when the beach trailer is travelling or is stationary in a position that is likely to cause danger to other road users.

7. Technical Requirements

- 7.1 A beach trailer must comply with the requirements of sections 59A - 68 of the VSS Regulation.
- 7.2 As a beach trailer is limited to operating during daylight hours, no lights or reflectors are required.
- 7.3 A beach trailer being used in accordance with Part 2, subsection 5.2 must be fitted with tail, brake and indicator lights that comply, as far as is practicable, with the requirements of Vehicle Standards Bulletin 1.
Note: The use of lights that are temporarily attached is acceptable.
- 7.4 Any electrical installations in a beach trailer must meet the applicable Australian Standard.
- 7.5 A beach trailer is not required to be fitted with brakes.

- 7.6 The tow coupling on a beach trailer must comply with the requirements of the Vehicle Standards Bulletin 1.
- 7.7 While a beach trailer is not required to be fitted with wheel guards, they should be fitted where it is practical to do so.
- 7.8 No special marking is needed to ensure the visibility of the body of a beach trailer.
- 7.9 The axles fitted to a beach trailer must be capable of carrying the proportion of the trailers mass that is transmitted to the ground through it.
- 7.10 The wheels and tyres fitted to a beach trailer do not need to be certified for road use, however they must be adequate for the loads they are to carry and the speeds at which they are to be towed.
- 7.11 The Gross Trailer Mass (GTM) of a beach trailer must not exceed the sum of the load ratings of its tyres.

Part 3 - Appendices

Appendix A – Types of Beach Trailers



Type: Boat trailer

Purpose: To transport inflatable boats and personal watercraft



Type: Patrol trailer

Purpose: To store and transport specialised equipment required by Surf Life Saving Queensland.



Type: Patrol tower trailer

Purpose: A trailer based patrol tower used for surf lifesaving patrols.