

STATE OF WYOMING EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE ORDER

Order 2021-7

EMERGENCY RELIEF PERMITS FOR TRANSPORTATION OF OVERSIZED-LOADS OF BALED LIVESTOCK FEED

WHEREAS, widespread drought conditions, low humidity, and high temperatures have created a shortage of livestock feed in Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, approximately 33% of Wyoming's land area is presently affected by moderate drought conditions and an additional 64% is affected by severe or extreme drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, due to these drought conditions, pasture grass and natural feed supplies are depleted in many parts of the state, resulting in inadequate forage for Wyoming's livestock; and

WHEREAS, easing of oversize baled livestock feed transportation restrictions is necessary to provide assistance to drought stricken areas; and

WHEREAS, Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 31-18-802(a) limits the size of vehicles operating upon Wyoming highways to a height not to exceed fourteen (14) feet and a width not to exceed one hundred and two (102) inches; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 31-18-804(n) and the Department's motor carrier rules, chapter 5, § 24, an emergency relief permit may be issued to exempt certain carriers from the size limitations of Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 31-18-804(a) if the Governor or Director of the Department determines that:

- (i) The operation of the vehicles under Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 31-18-804(n) would relieve a situation that is detrimental to the economy or general welfare of the state or another state; and
- (ii) By engineering evaluation, the highways and bridges in question have geometrical and structural capacity adequate to accommodate the vehicles and allow their operation safely and compatibility with other traffic on the highways; and
- (iii) Federal highway funds will not be withdrawn by this provision.

WHEREAS, the Director of the Department of Transportation has determined that the above requirements of Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 31-18-804(n)(i)-(iii) have been met for the limited purpose of issuing emergency relief permits to lift certain restrictions for vehicles transporting oversize baled livestock feed.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the laws of the State of Wyoming, specifically Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 31-18-804(n), I, Mark Gordon, do hereby order that emergency relief permits must be issued to relieve the impact of the ongoing drought on the state's livestock industry and its resulting detriment to the economy and general welfare of the state. The following conditions shall apply to such emergency relief permits:

- 1. Oversize baled livestock feed may be transported over any state highway in the state of Wyoming from two (2) hours before official sunrise until two (2) hours after official sunset.
- 2. Vehicles hauling oversize baled livestock feed on any state highway are not to exceed twelve (12) feet in width, or fifteen (15) feet in height. "Oversize Load" signs (front and rear) are required.
- 3. For non-daylight travel, vehicles hauling oversize baled livestock feed shall be equipped with amber clearance lights on each front corner, and a red clearance light on each rear corner of the load or vehicle (whichever is wider). Such loads shall also display a revolving amber light, amber strobe light, or two-way flashing amber lights at least four (4) inches in diameter on the vehicle. LED assemblies meeting the visibility requirements shall be allowed. These lights shall be clearly visible at least one thousand (1,000) feet from the front and rear of the vehicle.
- 4. This Executive Order does not grant authority for any vehicle to exceed weight limits or posted bridge and road limits of any such road.
- 5. The permits are valid for movements of baled livestock feed to a destination within Wyoming or to a destination in another state that has declared an emergency for livestock feed.
- 6. Permits shall be obtained from the Wyoming Highway Patrol, and carried for the duration of the permit and throughout the duration of the emergency.

This Executive Order is effective September 22, 2021 and expires upon the conclusion of the emergency, but no later than midnight, November 30, 2021.

Given under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Wyoming this 22nd day of September, 2021.

Mark Gordon

Governor