



PROTECTING AND MAINTAINING STATE HIGHWAYS

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to delegate the responsibility for closing or restricting state highway use, to clarify the intent of the Board regarding state highway maintenance, and to clarify the intent of the Board regarding eradicating and controlling noxious weeds.

Legal Authority

Idaho Code 40-310(4) - Authority to locate, design, extend, repair and maintain state highway system.

Idaho Code 40-310(5) - Board authority to establish standards and maintenance and repair schedule for state highways

Idaho Code 40-310(6) - Board duty to establish and cause to be kept surveys, studies, maps, plans and specifications for alteration, extension, repair and maintenance of state highways.

Idaho Code 40-312(3) - Board authority to make rules and regulations for maintenance and Repair

Idaho Code 40-314(3) - Board authority to improve and maintain areas adjacent to highway for highway preservation,

Idaho Code 40-502 - Department responsibility for maintaining state highways, including rights-of-way.

The Department Director or director's delegate is responsible for closing or restricting the use of state highways when such action is necessary to protect the public or to prevent damage to the roadway. The Department Director is also responsible for maintaining the State Highway System by performing the following:

- Establishing guidelines for maintenance activities related to the State Highway System including bridges, connections and approaches. These guidelines shall be used as the basis for internal maintenance procedures and in assigning responsibilities to local jurisdictions with cooperative maintenance agreements.
 - Developing maintenance levels of service for the State Highway System. Each route, or portion thereof, shall be assigned a level of maintenance service commensurate with the applicable corridor of significance, economic importance, traffic volume, crash experience, potential safety hazard areas, or other factors as determined necessary and subject to availability of funds.
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- Instituting a Roadside Vegetation Program for the eradication and control of noxious weeds and the establishment, growth, and maintenance of appropriate vegetation within the right-of-way of the State Highway System. The Roadside Vegetation Program shall promote the use of noxious weed free materials, the reclamation of materials sources on highway construction projects, and a comprehensive and integrated management program of native and other adaptable vegetation. The Director may delegate the authority to sign contracts or agreements with public or private entities to provide for noxious weed eradication or control.

Approved by the Board on:

Signed _____

Jerry Whitehead
Board Chairman

Date April 10, 2013