

IDAPA 39 – IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
Division of Motor Vehicles
39.03.08 – Rules Governing Self-Propelled Snowplows

Who does this rule apply to?

Operators of self-propelled motor vehicles that have been equipped with snow removal equipment and are being used for snow removal on any public highway.

- Self-propelled snowplow operators removing snow on any public highway.

What is the purpose of this rule?

This rule provides for safety requirements specifically for self-propelled motor vehicles that have been equipped with snow removal equipment that will be used for snow removal on a public highway. The rule provides for special permits and requirements such as warning flags, clearance lights or reflectors, headlamps, flashing lights and visibility requirements. The purpose of the rule is to ensure safety to the traveling public and safety to the state's infrastructure.

What is the legal authority for the agency to promulgate this rule?

This rule implements the following statutes passed by the Idaho Legislature:

Highways and Bridges -

Idaho Transportation Board:

- [40-312, Idaho Code](#) – Powers and Duties — Rules and Regulations

Motor Vehicles -

Vehicle Equipment:

- [49-929, Idaho Code](#) – Lights on Snow Removal Equipment

Weight, Speed and Tire Regulations:

- [49-1004, Idaho Code](#) – Permits for Overweight or Oversize Loads – Special Routes and Annual Permits

Who do I contact for more information on this rule?

Idaho Transportation Department

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39.03.08 – RULES GOVERNING SELF-PROPELLED SNOWPLOWS

000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

The rule is adopted under authority of Sections 40-312, 49-929, and 49-1004, Idaho Code. (3-31-22)

001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

01. Title. This rule is titled IDAPA 39.03.08, “Rules Governing Self-Propelled Snowplows,” IDAPA 39, Title 03, Chapter 08. (3-31-22)

02. Scope. Self-propelled snowplows cannot comply with the safety requirements as other oversize loads due to the nature of their operation. Therefore, this rule is promulgated to state the regulations, safety, and standardizes the lighting systems for overwidth self-propelled snowplows operating under special permit authority. These specifications and standards supersede Administrative Policy A-05-26 (dated 6-23-82) and Board Policy B-05-26 (dated 6-16-82). The self-propelled snowplows will be permitted at the rates listed in Rule 39.03.03, “Rules Governing Special Permit – General Conditions and Requirements,” for oversize loads. (3-31-22)

002. -- 009. (RESERVED)

010. DEFINITIONS.

In addition to the definitions set forth in IDAPA 39.03.01, “Rules Governing Definitions Regarding Special Permits,” the following terms are used in this rule. (3-31-22)

01. Snow Removal Equipment. Any private or publicly-owned vehicle classified as a motorized vehicle as defined in Section 49-123, Idaho Code, that has been equipped with snow removal equipment and is being used for snow removal on any public highway. (3-31-22)

011. – 099. (RESERVED)

100. CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR OPERATION OF SELF-PROPELLED SNOWPLOWS ON THE STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM.

01. General Conditions. Refer to IDAPA 39.03.03, “Rules for Governing Special Permits – General Conditions and Requirements,” for conditions required for the issuance of special permits. (3-31-22)

02. No Pilot/Escort Vehicles Required. Self-propelled snowplows utilized to clear roads, streets, and other locations of snow or debris may operate with no escort vehicles required twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, including holidays. (3-31-22)

03. Warning Flags. An eighteen (18”) inch by eighteen (18”) inch red or fluorescent orange flag shall be mounted near the extremities of the blade if it exceeds eight feet six inches (8’6”) inches in width. (3-31-22)

04. Clearance Light or Reflector Requirements. When operating during hours of darkness, a clearance light or a clearance reflector that meets the specifications listed in Sections 49-910 and 49-911, Idaho Code, shall be mounted near the extremities of the blade if the blade exceeds eight feet six inches (8’6”) inches in width. (3-31-22)

05. Headlamps, Turn Signals, and Flashing Lights. Headlamps, turn signals, and flashing lights shall be mounted on snow removal equipment at sufficient height to clear all snow removal apparatus. (3-31-22)

06. Visibility Requirements. Flashing identification lights on snow removal equipment must be amber or red colored, and mounted on the cab or truck bed. They shall be mounted so as to be visible from the front, amber only in color, and rear, red or amber in color, regardless of vehicle configuration, for example, when the truck bed is raised. Flashing lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than one thousand (1,000’) feet in normal sunlight, and not less than two thousand five hundred (2,500’) feet under average visibility conditions at night. (3-31-22)

07. Lights to Meet Idaho Code Requirements. Tail lamps, stop lamps, and clearance lamps on snow removal equipment must meet standards specified in Idaho Code. (3-31-22)

101. – 999. (RESERVED)