

# Table of Contents

---

## 39.03.41 – Rules Governing Traffic Control Devices

000. Legal Authority. ....	2
001. Title And Scope. ....	2
002. Written Interpretations. ....	2
003. Administrative Appeals. ....	2
004. Incorporation By Reference. ....	2
005. Availability Of The “Manual On Uniform Traffic Control Devices For Streets And Highways.” ....	8
006. Office – Office Hours – Mailing And Street Address – Phone Numbers. ....	8
007. -- 999. (Reserved).....	8

**IDAPA 39  
TITLE 03  
CHAPTER 41**

**39.03.41 – RULES GOVERNING TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES**

**000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.**

The Idaho Transportation Board adopts this rule under the authority of Section 40-312(1), Idaho Code, to meet the provisions of Sections 40-313(1) and 49-201(3), Idaho Code. (3-29-12)

**001. TITLE AND SCOPE.**

**01. Title.** This rule is titled IDAPA 39.03.41, “Rules Governing Traffic Control Devices,” IDAPA 39, Title 03, Chapter 41. (3-30-01)

**02. Scope.** It is the purpose of this rule to establish standards, options, guidance and supporting information for the design, construction and implementation of traffic control devices. (3-20-04)

**002. WRITTEN INTERPRETATIONS.**

This chapter does not provide for written interpretations. (3-30-01)

**003. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.**

This chapter does not provide for administrative appeals. (3-30-01)

**004. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.**

The “Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways” is published by the Federal Highway Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation. The 2009 edition including revisions 1 and 2 of the Manual with an effective date of June 13, 2012, is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of the Rules of the Idaho Transportation Department. The following conforming additions to the Manual are adopted by the Idaho Transportation Board: (4-4-13)

**01. Section 1A.11, Relation to Other Documents.** On page 7 - in the first paragraph under Standard, change the paragraph to read as follows: To the extent that they are incorporated by specific reference, the latest editions of the following publications, or those editions specifically noted, shall be a part of this Manual: “Standard Highway Signs and Markings” book, the Idaho Transportation Department Supplement to the Standard Highway Signs and Markings book; and “Color Specifications for Retroreflective Sign and Pavement Marking Materials” (appendix to subpart F of Part 655 of Title 23 of the Code of Federal Regulations). (4-11-19)

**02. Section 2C.48, Traffic Signal Signs (W25-1, W25-2).** On page 128 - delete the section in its entirety, and Figure 2C-9. Intersection Warning Signs and Plaques, on page 127, remove the W25-1 and W25-2 signs from the figure. (3-29-12)

**03. Section 2C.63, Object Marker Design and Placement Height.** (4-4-13)

**a.** On page 134 - make the following changes to allow alternate methods of marker construction and additional types of markers:

**Support:**

Type 1, 2, 3, and 6 object markers are used to mark obstructions within or adjacent to the roadway, Type 4 object markers are used to mark the end of a roadway, and Type 6 for Truck Escape Ramps.

**Standard:**

**When used, object markers (see Figure 2C-13) shall not have a border and shall consist of an arrangement of one (1) or more of the following types:**

Type 1 - either a diamond-shaped sign, at least eighteen (18) inches on a side, consisting of either a yellow (OM1-1) or black (OM1-2) sign with nine (9) yellow retroreflective devices, each with a minimum diameter of three (3) inches, mounted symmetrically on the sign, or an all-yellow retroreflective sign (OM1-3) or a marker consisting of a rigid substrate sheeted with yellow retroreflective sheeting screen printed to display nine (9) yellow retroreflective circles, each with a minimum diameter of three (3) inches, arranged symmetrically on a black (OM1-2) diamond shaped panel eighteen (18) inches or more on a side; or an all-yellow retroreflective diamond shaped panel (OM1-3) of the same size.

Type 2 - either a marker (OM2-1V or OM2-1H) consisting of three (3) yellow retroreflective devices, each with a minimum diameter of three (3) inches, arranged either horizontally or vertically on a white sign measuring at least six (6) inches by twelve (12) inches; or an all-yellow horizontal or vertical retroreflective sign (OM2-2V or OM2-2H), measuring at least six (6) inches by twelve (12) inches; or a marker (OM2-1V or OM2-1H) consisting of a rigid substrate sheeted with white retroreflective sheeting and displaying three (3) yellow circles of retroreflective sheeting, each with a minimum diameter of three (3) inches, arranged either horizontally or vertically on a white panel measuring at least six (6) inches by twelve (12) inches; or on an all-yellow horizontal or vertical retroreflective panel (OM2-2V or OM2-2H), sheeted with retroreflective sheeting measuring at least six (6) inches by twelve (12) inches.

Type 3 - a striped marker, twelve (12) inches by thirty-six (36) inches, consisting of a rigid substrate sheeted with yellow retroreflective sheeting screen printed to display a vertical rectangle with alternating black stripes and retroreflective yellow stripes sloping downward at an angle of forty-five (45) degrees toward the side of the obstruction on which traffic is to pass. The minimum width of the yellow and black stripes shall be three (3) inches.

Type 4 - a diamond-shaped sign, at least eighteen (18) inches on a side, consisting of either a red (OM4-1) or black (OM4-2) sign with nine (9) red retroreflective devices, each with a minimum diameter of three (3) inches, mounted symmetrically on the sign, or an all-red retroreflective sign (OM4-3).

Type 6 - add a category for Type 6 object markers to read as follows: a striped marker, twelve (12) inches by thirty-six (36) inches, consisting of a vertical rectangle with alternating white and retroreflective red stripes sloping downward at an angle of forty-five (45) degrees toward the side of the obstruction on which traffic is to pass, to be used for entrance to Truck Escape Ramps ONLY. The minimum width of the white and red stripes shall be three (3) inches. Red retroreflective stripes shall meet the minimum requirements of sheeting.

(4-11-19)

- b. On page 134 under "Support:" add the following revised paragraph 2:

Type 3 and Type 6 object markers with stripes that begin at the upper right side and slope downward to the lower left side are designated as right object markers (OM3-R) or (OM6-R). Object markers with stripes that begin at the upper left side and slope downward to the lower right side are designated as left object markers (OM3-L) or (OM6-L).

(4-4-13)

- c. On page 135, Figure 2C-13, Object Markers - add a Type 6 Object Marker category to the figure which shall include an example of the OM-6 object marker known as the Idaho Truck Escape Ramp marker:



(4-11-19)

**04. Section 2D.43, Street Name Signs (D3-1 or D3-1a).**

(3-29-12)

**a.** On page 162, change the second sentence of the fourteenth paragraph under the Standard statement to read as follows: The color of the legend and border shall contrast with the background color of the sign.”(3-29-12)

**b.** On page 162, change the fifteenth paragraph under the Option statement to read as follows: The border may not be omitted from a street name sign if used on the State Highway System or related roadways.  
(3-29-12)

**05. Section 2E.31, Interchange Exit Numbering.** On page 212, in the fourth sentence under “Standard” revise the sentence to read as follows: “The exit number plaque (E1-5P) (see Figure 2E-22) shall be thirty-six (36) inches in height and shall include the word “EXIT” along with the appropriate exit number.”(3-29-12)

**06. Section 4D.04, Meaning of Vehicular Signal Indications.** On page 451- in the second paragraph of Item C.1, substitute the following for the first sentence: “Except when a sign is in place prohibiting a turn on steady circular red signal or a RED ARROW signal indication is displayed, vehicular traffic facing a steady CIRCULAR RED signal indication may turn right or turn left from a one-way or two-way highway into a one-way street, after stopping in conformance with the provisions of the Idaho Vehicle Code.” (3-29-12)

**07. Section 4L.03, Warning Beacon.** On page 524 - in the second paragraph under “Standard,” add the following as a second sentence to read as follows: “The beacon shall not be included within the border of the sign or marker.” (3-29-12)

**08. Figure 5C.1, Horizontal Alignment and Intersection Warning Signs and Plaques and Object Markers on Low-Volume Roads.** On page 536, add a Type 6 Object Marker OM-6 (Truck Escape Ramp).  
(4-11-19)

**09. Section 5F.04, STOP and YIELD Signs (R1-1, R1-2).** On page 543, delete “and YIELD” from the title and insert the following paragraph as the third paragraph under “Standard”: “Under Idaho law, wherever a highway crosses one (1) or more railroads at grade, the Department or local authorities within their respective jurisdictions, shall place and maintain stop signs, directing vehicular traffic approaching the crossing to come to a full stop prior to entering the crossing at all railroad crossings where electric or mechanical warning signals do not exist. Placement of these stop signs shall be mandatory except when, in the determination of the Department or local authorities, the existence of stop signs at a given crossing would constitute a greater hazard than their absence, based on a recognized engineering study.” (3-29-12)

**10. Table 7B.1, School Area Sign and Plaque Sizes.** On page 733, remove S4-2P, “When Children Are Present.” (3-29-12)

11. **Figure 7B.1, School Area Signs.** On page 735, remove figure S4-2P. (3-29-12)
12. **Section 7B.15, School Speed Limit Assembly (S4-1P, S4-2P, S4-3P, S4-4P, S4-6P, S5-1).** (3-29-12)
  - a. On page 742, remove S4-2P in the title; and (3-29-12)
  - b. On page 743, in the second paragraph under “Standard” remove the S4-2P and in the third paragraph under “Option” add the following as a fourth sentence to read as follows: “The lenses of the Speed Limit Sign Beacon shall not be positioned within the face of the School Speed Limit (S5-1) sign.” (3-29-12)
13. **Section 8A.03, Use of Standard Devices, Systems, and Practices at Highway-LRT Grade Crossings.** On page 748, under “Standard” add the following statement as a second sentence to read as follows: “Per Section 49-202(25), Idaho Code, “Wherever a highway crosses one (1) or more railroads at grade, the Department or local authorities within their respective jurisdictions, shall place and maintain stop signs, directing vehicular traffic approaching the crossing to come to a full stop prior to entering the crossing at all railroad crossings where electric or mechanical warning signals do not exist. Placement of these stop signs shall be mandatory except when, in the determination of the public highway agencies, the existence of stop signs at a given crossing would constitute a greater hazard than their absence, based on a recognized engineering study.” (3-29-12)
14. **Figure 8B.3, Crossbuck Assembly with a YIELD or STOP Sign on a Separate Sign Support (Sheet 1 of 2).** Delete figure in its entirety. (3-29-12)
15. **Figure 8B.3, Crossbuck Assembly with a YIELD or STOP Sign on a Separate Sign Support (Sheet 2 of 2).** Delete “YIELD or” from the title of the figure. Change Note 1 to read as follows: “Per Section 49-202(25), Idaho Code, “Wherever a highway crosses one (1) or more railroads at grade, the Department or local authorities within their respective jurisdictions, shall place and maintain stop signs, directing vehicular traffic approaching the crossing to come to a full stop prior to entering the crossing at all railroad crossings where electric or mechanical warning signals do not exist. Placement of these stop signs shall be mandatory except when, in the determination of the public highway agencies, the existence of stop signs at a given crossing would constitute a greater hazard than their absence, based on a recognized engineering study.”” (3-29-12)
16. **Section 8B.04, Crossbuck Assemblies with YIELD or STOP Signs at Passive Grade Crossings.** On pages 754,757 and 758, delete “YIELD or” from the title and modify the Section to read as follows:

**Standard:**

A grade crossing Crossbuck Assembly shall consist of a Crossbuck (R15-1) sign, and a Number of Tracks (R15-2P) plaque if two (2) or more tracks are present, that complies with the provisions of Section 8B.03, and shall have a STOP (R1-1) sign installed on the same support, as pursuant to the following requirement: “Per Section 49-202(25), Idaho Code, “Wherever a highway crosses one (1) or more railroads at grade, the Department or local authorities within their respective jurisdictions, shall place and maintain stop signs, directing vehicular traffic approaching the crossing to come to a full stop prior to entering the crossing at all railroad crossings where electric or mechanical warning signals do not exist. Placement of these stop signs shall be mandatory except when, in the determination of the public highway agencies, the existence of stop signs at a given crossing would constitute a greater hazard than their absence, based on a recognized engineering study.””

At all public highway-rail grade crossings that are not equipped with the active traffic control systems that are described in Chapter 8C, except crossings where road users are directed by an authorized person on the ground to not enter the crossing at all times that an approaching train is about to occupy the crossing, a Crossbuck Assembly shall be installed on the right-hand side of the highway on each approach to the highway-rail grade crossing.

If a Crossbuck sign is used on a highway approach to a public highway-LRT grade crossing that is not equipped with the active traffic control systems that are described in Chapter 8C, a Crossbuck Assembly shall be installed on the right-hand side of the highway on each approach to the highway-LRT grade crossing.

Where restricted sight distance or unfavorable highway geometry exists on an approach to a grade crossing that has a Crossbuck Assembly, or where there is a one-way multi-lane approach, an additional Crossbuck Assembly shall be installed on the left-hand side of the highway.

**Guidance:**

The use of STOP signs at passive grade crossings should be placed in accordance with Idaho law.

**Support:**

Sections 8A.02 and 8A.03 contain information regarding the responsibilities of the highway agency and the railroad company or LRT agency regarding the selection, design, and operation of traffic control devices placed at grade crossings.

**Option:**

When a STOP sign is installed for a Crossbuck Assembly at a grade crossing, it may be installed on the same support as the Crossbuck sign or it may be installed on a separate support at a point where the highway vehicle is to stop, or as near to that point as practical, but in either case, the STOP sign is considered to be a part of the Crossbuck Assembly.

**Standard:**

When a STOP sign is installed on an existing Crossbuck sign support, the minimum height, measured vertically from the bottom of the STOP sign to the top of the curb, or in the absence of curb, measured vertically from the bottom of the STOP sign to the elevation of the near edge of the traveled way, shall be four (4) feet (see Figure 8B-2).

If a Crossbuck Assembly is installed on a new sign support (see Figure 8B-2) or if the STOP sign is installed on a separate support (see Figure 8B-3), the minimum height, measured vertically from the bottom of the STOP sign to the top of the curb, or in the absence of curb, measured vertically from the bottom of the STOP sign to the elevation of the near edge of the traveled way, shall be seven (7) feet if the Crossbuck Assembly is installed in an area where parking or pedestrian movements are likely to occur.

**Guidance:**

If a STOP sign is installed for a Crossbuck Assembly at a grade crossing on a separate support than the Crossbuck sign (see Figure 8B-3), the STOP sign should be placed at a point where the highway vehicle is to stop, or as near that point as practical, but no closer than fifteen (15) feet measured perpendicular from the nearest rail.

**Support:**

Certain commercial motor vehicles and school buses are required to stop at all grade crossings in accordance with 49 CFR 392.10.

The meaning of a Crossbuck Assembly that includes a STOP sign is that a road user approaching the grade crossing must come to a full and complete stop not less than fifteen (15) feet short of the nearest rail, and remain stopped while the road user determines if there is rail traffic either occupying the crossing or approaching and in such close proximity to the crossing that the road user must yield the right-of-way to rail traffic. The road user is permitted to proceed when it is safe to cross.

**Standard:**

A vertical strip of retroreflective white material, not less than two (2) inches in width, shall be used on each Crossbuck support at passive grade crossings for the full length of the back of the support from the Crossbuck sign or Number of Tracks plaque to within two (2) feet above the ground, except as provided in Paragraph 16.

(3-29-12)

**17. Section 8B.05, STOP (R1-1) Or YIELD (R1-2) Signs without Crossbuck Signs at Highway-LRT Grade Crossings.** On page 758, delete “Or YIELD (R1-2)” from the title and delete the Guidance Statement, retaining the Standard and insert the following paragraph as the first paragraph under Standard: “Per Section 49-202(25), Idaho Code, “Wherever a highway crosses one (1) or more railroads at grade, the Department or local authorities within their respective jurisdictions, shall place and maintain stop signs, directing vehicular traffic approaching the crossing to come to a full stop prior to entering the crossing at all railroad crossings where electric or mechanical warning signals do not exist. Placement of these stop signs shall be mandatory except when, in the determination of the public highway agencies, the existence of stop signs at a given crossing would constitute a greater hazard than their absence, based on a recognized engineering study.””

(3-29-12)

**18. Section 8B.07, EXEMPT Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Plaques (R15-3P, W10-1aP).**

(3-29-12)

**a.** On page 759 - add the following paragraph titled as: “Standard: All EXEMPT (R15-3) signs placed at a highway-rail grade crossing, shall require train crews to flag the crossing and stop all vehicular traffic prior to allowing any railroad equipment to enter the crossing. Placement of an EXEMPT (R15-3) sign shall require a written agreement between the railroad company and the agency having jurisdiction over the highway which requires both parties to comply with the proper procedures for placement of EXEMPT signs at Highway-Rail Grade Crossings. A copy of all agreements shall be forwarded to the Idaho Transportation Department Highway-Rail Safety Coordinator.”

(3-29-12)

**b.** Retain the “Option” statement and modify the “Support” statement on page 760 to read as follows: Support: These supplemental signs inform drivers of vehicles carrying passengers for hire, school buses carrying students, or vehicles carrying hazardous materials that a stop is not required at certain designated highway-rail grade crossings.

(5-1-10)

**19. Section 8B.09, DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS Sign (R8-8).** On page 760, change the second paragraph of the Guidance statement to read as follows:

When a STOP sign is installed at a location, including at a circular intersection, that is downstream from the grade crossing such that highway vehicle queues are likely to extend beyond the tracks, a DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS sign (R8-8) should be used.

(3-29-12)

**20. Section 8B.16, Divided Highway with Light Rail Transit Crossing Signs (R15-7 Series).** On page 762, change the second sentence of the first paragraph of the Option statement to read as follows: The sign shall be mounted separately.

(3-29-12)

**21. Section 8B.18, Emergency Notification Sign (I-13).** On page 763, change the second paragraph of the Guidance statement to read as follows: Emergency Notification signs should be oriented so as to face highway vehicles at the grade crossing or on the traveled way near the grade crossing.

(3-29-12)

**22. Section 8C.09, Traffic Control Signals at or Near Highway-Rail Grade Crossings.** On page 777, in the fourth paragraph titled “Standard,” replace “if applicable” with “if justified by an engineering study,” at the end of the final sentence in the paragraph.

(3-29-12)

**005. AVAILABILITY OF THE “MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES FOR STREETS AND HIGHWAYS.”**

**01. Review of Manual.** Persons wishing to review the Manual may do so at any of the locations listed in Section 006. The Manual and subsequent amendments are also available for review on the Federal Highway Administration website at <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov>. (3-29-12)

**02. Purchase of Manual.** The Manual with an effective date of June 13, 2012, may be viewed and printed from the Federal Highway Administration website at <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov>, or purchased from a number of organizations described on the website, such as AASHTO, ATSSA, and ITE. (4-11-19)

**006. OFFICE – OFFICE HOURS – MAILING AND STREET ADDRESS – PHONE NUMBERS.**

**01. Street and Mailing Address.** The Idaho Transportation Department maintains a central office in Boise at 3311 W. State Street with a mailing address of P.O. Box 7129, Boise, ID 83707-1129. (3-20-04)

**02. Office Hours.** Daily office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. except Saturday, Sunday and state holidays. (3-20-04)

**03. Telephone and FAX Numbers.** The central office may be contacted during office hours by phone at 208-334-8000 or by fax at 208-334-3858. (3-20-04)

**007. -- 999. (RESERVED)**



# Subject Index

## A

Administrative Appeals 2  
Availability Of The "Manual On  
Uniform Traffic Control Devices For  
Streets And Highways" 8

## I

Incorporation By Reference 2

## L

Legal Authority 2

## O

Office – Office Hours – Mailing &  
Street Address – Phone Numbers 8

## T

Title & Scope 2

## W

Written Interpretations 2