

# Pilots and escorts in mountainous areas

## Information sheet

March 2023

### Introduction

This information sheet details the pilot and escort requirement for the movement of restricted-access vehicles in mountainous areas in Victoria.

In Victoria, as is the case nationally, there are two levels of pilot vehicle drivers - level 1 (pilot) and level 2 (certified pilot). Definitions can be found at <https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/business-and-industry/heavy-vehicle-industry/escort-and-pilot-vehicles/driver-of-pilot-vehicles>

This information sheet should be read in conjunction with information on pilots and escort vehicles at <https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/business-and-industry/heavy-vehicle-industry/escort-and-pilot-vehicles>

### Where are Victoria's mountainous areas?

Defined mountainous areas in Victoria are indicated in pink on all Victoria's Class 1 heavy vehicle maps available at <https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/business-and-industry/heavy-vehicle-industry/heavy-vehicle-map-networks--in-victoria/cl1-spv-osom>

### Pilot and escort requirement for mountainous areas

Tables 1 and 2 detail the pilot requirements for restricted-access vehicles.

Where access to local roads is required, the relevant local government authority may specify additional pilots or escorts.

Table 1 Length limits

Vehicle type	Length	Requirement
Rigid	12.6m to 15.0m	1 pilot
All-terrain	12.6m to 16.5m	1 pilot
Articulated	19.1m to 22.0m	1 pilot

2. Not applicable to Emergency & Emergency Preparedness Vehicles



Table 2 Width limits

Width	Requirement
2.51m to 3.0m	1 pilot
3.01m to 3.5m	1 certified pilot
3.51m to 4.0m	2 certified pilots
4.01m to 5.5m	3 certified pilots

### What if my vehicle exceeds length or width limits?

Vehicles larger than those specified in tables 1 and 2 may require additional pilots and/or escorts. Enquiries should be directed to [heavyvehicles@transport.vic.gov.au](mailto:heavyvehicles@transport.vic.gov.au)

### Travel times<sup>1</sup>

Travel must not be undertaken:

- Outside daylight hours
- During school bus travel times
- On weekends, public and school holiday periods.

Applications for exemptions should be sent to [heavyvehicles@transport.vic.gov.au](mailto:heavyvehicles@transport.vic.gov.au)

## Exceptions to tables 1 and 2<sup>2</sup>

Table 3 details the pilot and escort requirement for restricted access vehicles on:

- **Colac-Lavers Hill Road** between Old Beech Forest Road and Lavers Hill – Cobden Road (between Gellibrand and Lavers Hill)
- **Lavers Hill Cobden Road** between Williams Road and Colac-Lavers Hill Road (between Simpson and Lavers Hill).
- **Deans Marsh-Lorne Road** between Birregurra-Deans Marsh Road and Waverley Avenue (Deans Marsh to Lorne).
- **Forrest-Apollo Bay Road** between Frizon Street and Skenes Creek Road (Forrest to Skenes Creek).
- **Gellibrand River Road** between Carlisle River and Chapple Vale.
- **Great Ocean Road** between Murray Street and McCue Street (Anglesea to Port Campbell).

In addition, one certified pilot must travel behind the load with the remaining pilots and/or escorts in front. Vehicles must be in radio contact at all times.

Table 3

Width	Requirement
2.51m to 3.5m	2 pilot
3.51m to 4.5m	3 pilot
4.51m to 5.0m	2 certified pilots and 1 escort
5.51m to 5.5m	3 certified pilots and 1 escort
Over 5.5m	Apply to xxx@transport.vic.gov.au

Table 4 details the pilot and escort requirements for restricted-access vehicles on

- **Great Ocean Road** between Strathmore Drive and Murray Street (Torquay to Anglesea).

In addition, loads travelling between Torquay and Anglesea must depart at 3:00am and arrive at their destination by first light.



Table 4

Width	Requirement
2.51m to 3.5m	NA
3.51m to 4.5m	1 pilot
4.51m to 5.0m	2 certified pilots
5.51m to 5.5m	3 certified pilots
Over 5.5m	3 certified pilots

Table 5 details the pilot and escort requirement for restricted-access vehicles on:

- **Bonang Road** between Sardine Creek Road and the New South Wales border

Table 5

Width	Requirement
2.51m to 3.0m	1 certified pilot
3.01m to 3.5m	2 certified pilots
3.51m to 4.0m	3 certified pilots
4.01m to 5.5m	3 certified pilots

2. Not applicable to Emergency & Emergency Preparedness Vehicles

Table 6 details the pilot and escort requirement for restricted-access vehicles on:

- **Princes Highway** between Falks Road and Lake Tyers Beach Road (Kalimna to Lake Tyers Beach)

Table 6

Width	Requirement
2.51m to 5.5m	1 certified pilot and a traffic plan
Over 5.5m	2 certified pilots and 1 escort

Vehicles wider than 3.5 metres should detour Lakes Entrance via Great Alpine Road from Lucknow to Bruthen; Bruthen-Nowa Nowa Road from Bruthen to Nowa Nowa; and Princes Highway.

Where the destination of the load is Lakes Entrance, the Princes Highway is to be closed under traffic management at the Marine Parade roundabout.

Table 7 details the pilot and escort requirement for restricted-access vehicles on:

- **Morwell – Thorpdale Road** (full length)

Table 7

Width	Requirement
Over 2.51m	2 certified pilots

Table 8 details the pilot and escort requirement for restricted-access vehicles on:

- **Mount Baw Baw Tourist Road** (full length)

Table 8

Width	Requirement
2.51m to 3.0m	1 pilot
3.01m to 3.5m	1 certified pilot
3.51m to 4.0m	2 certified pilots
4.01m to 5.0m	3 certified pilots
5.01m to 5.5m	4 certified pilots
Over 5.5m	3 certified pilots and 1 escort

Table 9 details the pilot and escort requirement for restricted-access vehicles on:

- **Walhalla Road** (full length)

Table 9

Width	Requirement
2.51m to 5.5m	3 certified pilots
Over 5.5m	3 certified pilots

Two additional certified pilots are required for combinations between 19.0m and 22.0m in length.