

Non-complying beach trailers used by Surf Life Saving Queensland

Safe Movement Guideline

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Contents

Part 1 – introduction.....	3
1. Purpose of the Guideline	3
2. How the Guideline should be used	3
3. Guideline Authority.....	3
4. Definitions	3
5. Exemptions from Vehicle Standards	4
Part 2 – Technical Requirements	4
6. General requirements	4
7. Road Access Limitations.....	5
8. Vehicle Identification and Descriptions	5
9. Speed Limitations	5
10. Lighting Requirements	5
11. Technical Requirements.....	6
Part 3 – Appendices	6
12. Types of Beach Trailers	6

Part 1 – introduction

1. Purpose of the Guideline

This guideline provides vehicle standards exemptions for non-complying beach trailers used by Surf Life Saving Queensland (SLSQ) that access the road network.

2. How the Guideline should be used

This guideline is intended to help SLSQ operate non-complying beach trailers that meet the requirements set out in Part 2 of this guideline.

3. Guideline Authority

This guideline is issued under section 53 of the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management—Vehicle Standards and Safety) Regulation 2021* (VSS Regulation), in accordance with section 22 of the *Statutory Instruments Act 1992*.

4. Definitions

Unless otherwise stated, terms used in this guideline have the same meanings as those defined in the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995*, and the VSS Regulation.

Beach trailer means a trailer with:

- (a) an aggregate trailer mass not exceeding 4,500kg; and
- (b) that is designed and constructed to support surf life saving operations in Queensland; and
- (c) that is clearly marked as SLSQ equipment.

Emergency service means each of the following:

- (a) the Queensland Ambulance Service or an ambulance service of another State; or
- (b) the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service or a fire and rescue service of another State; or
- (c) the Queensland Police Service or the police service of the Commonwealth or another State.

Surf Life Saving Queensland (SLSQ) means Surf Life Saving Queensland (ABN 27 360 485 381) including its regional branches and affiliated clubs.

Vehicle Standards Bulletin 1 (VSB1) means the National Code of Practice: Building Small Trailers, as published by the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts.

5. Exemptions from Vehicle Standards

Beach trailers operating in compliance with this guideline are exempt from complying with Schedule 1 of the VSS regulation.

Part 2 – Technical Requirements

6. General requirements

1. In consideration of the intended purpose of use, the Department of Transport and Main Roads requires that, where possible, Surf Life Saving Queensland (SLSQ) to use beach trailers that comply with Vehicle Standards Bulletin 1 (VSB1).

Note: VSB1 is available from the Australian Government, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts website:

www.infrastructure.gov.au/departments/media/publications/vehicle-standards-bulletin-1-revision-6-trailers-aggregate-trailer-mass-45-tonnes-or-less

2. An SLSQ beach trailer must be maintained in a safe condition at all times.
3. An SLSQ beach trailer must only be used on permitted routes and in accordance with the conditions set out in this guideline.
4. Vehicle operators must comply with all lawful directions given by an emergency service officer or other authorised officer.
5. SLSQ must maintain adequate public liability insurance for the authorised vehicles for the duration of the authorisation. The policy must expressly cover personal injury caused by, or involving, an unregistered vehicle being used under an authorisation issued pursuant to section 13 of the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management—Vehicle Registration) Regulation 2021*.
6. A beach trailer must comply with the vehicle standards applicable to the trailer type mentioned in Part 2, Section 11.
7. The towing vehicle must have sufficient towing capacity to safely stop the combination at the speed permitted by this guideline.

7. Road Access Limitations

1. The beach trailer is limited to the shortest and most direct routes necessary for surf life saving operations:
 - a) between the club house and the beach; or
 - b) between the beach and club house; or
 - c) on any other route when directed by an emergency service officer.
2. A beach trailer may only be towed by a vehicle owned by SLSQ that is a:
 - a) registered, ADR-compliant vehicle (i.e. a four wheel drive), or
 - b) conditionally registered vehicle, complying with all relevant requirements set out in the [Conditionally Registering a Vehicle in Queensland Guideline](#).

8. Vehicle Identification and Descriptions

1. Beach trailers must be clearly marked and identifiable as SLSQ equipment.

9. Speed Limitations

1. The maximum permitted speed when towing a beach trailer is 10km/h.

10. Lighting Requirements

1. The towing vehicle must be fitted with a flashing light that:
 - a) emits a rotating or flashing yellow coloured light
 - b) flashes between 120 and 200 times per minute
 - c) has a minimum power of:
 - i. 25 watts if using LED technology; or
 - ii. 55 watts if using another lighting technology.
 - d) is clearly visible at a distance of 500m in all directions, or is supplemented with additional warning lights to achieve 500m visibility in any direction.
 - e) is activated only when the beach trailer is travelling, or stationary in a position likely to endanger other road users.
2. A beach trailer operating between sunset and sunrise must have tail, brake, and indicator lights that comply with Vehicle Standards Bulletin 1 (VSB1). Temporarily attached lights are acceptable.

11. Technical Requirements

1. A beach trailer must comply with the requirements of schedule 1, sections 59A-68 of the VSS Regulation.
2. Any electrical installations in a beach trailer must comply with applicable Australian Standards.
3. The tow coupling must comply with VSB1 requirements.
4. Although wheel guards are not required, they should be fitted where practicable.
5. No special markings are required to ensure the visibility of the trailer body.
6. Axles must be capable of carrying the proportion of trailer mass transmitted through them.
7. Wheels and tyres are not required to be certified for road use, however, they must be adequate for the load and towing speeds.
8. The Gross Trailer Mass (GTM) must not exceed the combined load rating of the tyres.

Part 3 – Appendices

12. Types of Beach Trailers

Type: Boat Trailer	Purpose: To transport inflatable boats and personal watercraft	
Type: Patrol Trailer	Purpose: To store and transport specialised equipment required by SLSQ	

Type: Patrol Tower Trailer	Purpose: A trailer-based patrol tower used for surf live saving patrols	
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