

Towing Oversize Recreational Boats

The legal width limit for any vehicle using Queensland roads is 2.50 metres. In Queensland, the Department of Transport and Main Roads provides limited access for vehicles that exceed regulation dimensions when carrying indivisible items. An indivisible item is one that cannot be divided without extreme effort, expense or risk of damage to it.

Currently, the movement of vehicles that exceed regulation dimensions when carrying indivisible items are covered in the *Guideline for Excess Dimension – Vehicles Carrying Indivisible Articles – Special Purpose Vehicles – Vehicles that require a Pilot or Escort in Queensland*, Form 4. The guideline specifies the types of vehicles that may engage in oversize travel; however, this guideline only applies to vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM) of more than 4.50 tonnes, and does **not** apply to light vehicles such as cars, stations wagons or light commercial vehicles. The limits are based on national model legislation.

The department has become aware of the increase for light vehicles towing trailers with boats that exceed regulations. To ensure these movements are undertaken in a safe manner, the department in conjunction with Marine Queensland has developed a policy to assist in the movement of these vehicles. Class Permit 220-TH-12 is available for **some** types of vehicles carrying a boat where the boat has a width greater 2.50 metres up to 2.90 metres.

Vehicles to which this Class Permit applies are any rigid vehicle having a Gross Combination Mass (GCM) greater than 4.50 tonnes, and have a sufficient towing capacity to safely tow the load. Types of vehicles that may meet the GCM requirement are Toyota Landcruiser, Nissan Patrol, or Nissan Navara. However, the operator should check with the manufacturer to ensure the vehicle has a GCM rating greater than 4.50 tonnes.

Travel with an oversize boat is not permitted for vehicles that do not meet the criteria.

The permit is available from Marine Queensland or on the Department's website – www.tmr.qld.gov.au.

When operating under the conditions of the Class Permit a copy of the permit must be carried by the driver at all times and produced when requested by an authorised officer.

OVERSIZE

