

## **Title 411 - NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ROADS - TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DIVISION**

### **Chapter 6 - Use of Snowmobiles on the State Highway System**

#### 001 DEFINITIONS

001.01 Department shall mean the Nebraska Department of Roads.

001.02 Freeway shall mean an expressway with full control of access.

001.03 Highway shall mean a road or street including the entire area within the right of way, which has been designated a part of the State Highway System.

001.04 Interstate highway shall mean a divided arterial highway for through traffic with full control of access and grade separation at intersections and which highway has been designated I-76, I-80, I-129, I-180, I-480 or I-680.

001.05 Motor vehicle shall mean every self-propelled land vehicle, not operated upon rails, except mopeds and self-propelled handicapped chairs.

001.06 Operate shall mean to ride in or on and control the operation of a snowmobile.

001.07 Operator shall mean every person who operates or is in actual physical control of a snowmobile.

001.08 Person shall mean any individual, partnership, corporation, the State and its agencies and subdivision, and any body of persons whether incorporated or not.

001.09 Right of way shall mean land, property, or interest therein, usually in a strip, acquired for or devoted to a road, street or highway.

001.10 Road shall mean a public way for the purpose of vehicle travel, including the entire area within the right of way. A road designated as part of the State Highway System may be called a highway while a road in an urban area may be called a street.

001.11 Roadway shall mean the portion of a highway, including shoulders for vehicular use.

001.12 Snowmobile shall mean a self-propelled motor vehicle designed to travel on snow or ice or a natural terrain, steered by wheels, skis or runners and propelled by a belt-driven track with or without steel cleats.

001.13 State Highway System shall mean the roads, streets, and highways shown on the map provided for in Section 39-1311, as forming a group of highway transportation lines for which the Department shall be the primary authority. The State Highway System shall include, but not be limited to: rights of way, connecting links, drainage facilities, and the bridges, appurtenances, easements and structures used in conjunction with such roads, streets, and highways.

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002 NO SNOWMOBILE SHALL BE OPERATED AT ANY TIME WITHIN THE RIGHT OF WAY OF ANY INTERSTATE HIGHWAY OR FREEWAY WITHIN THIS STATE.

003 NO PERSON SHALL OPERATE A SNOWMOBILE WITHIN THE RIGHT OF WAY OF ANY OTHER ROAD OR HIGHWAY ON THE STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM EXCEPT AS PERMITTED IN SECTIONS 003.01, 003.02, AND 003.03.

003.01 In crossing a State Highway, all crossings shall be made as provided in Neb. Rev. Stat., Section 60-6,335, Subsections 2 through 4.

003.02 In Snow Emergencies in which:

003.02A The road has been closed to motor vehicle travel by the Department and;

003.02B Snowmobiles are the only practical mode of transportation to provide for the health and welfare of the public by performing such services as aiding stranded motorists, delivering medical supplies, fuel, food and livestock supplies and not for recreational purposes.

003.02C The snowmobile shall be operated only on the roadway of a closed segment of the highway, and shall comply with all licensing and insurance requirements and all applicable rules of the road as established for motor vehicles in the state statutes, and Neb. Rev. Stat., Chapter 60, Article 6.

003.03 As a registered contestant in an international or other sponsored snowmobile contest which has received the prior written approval of the Department.

004 SNOWMOBILE CONTEST PERMITS

004.01 The sponsoring group must make application to the Department at least six months in advance of any proposed snowmobile contest to be held within the highway right of way.

004.01A The application shall contain the exact location at which the contest is to be held, including point of beginning and point of termination, the route for detouring traffic, the names of all contestants, and a signing plan that will comply with the requirements of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices as adopted pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat., Section 60-6,118.

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004.01B The sponsoring group shall obtain the necessary written agreements with the County, City or Village to use the county road or street as a detour for highway traffic. The agreement shall contain a provision that the sponsoring group is responsible to the County, City or Village for any damage to the county road or streets and any damage to abutting land or landowner caused by the traveling public using the detour. Copies of this agreement shall be submitted with the application.

004.02 The Department will determine if it is in the best interest of the general public to permit the contest on the roadway of such segment of the State Highway System and if the proposal will create undue hardship on the traveling public by requiring the use of a detour. Those requests that are approved will have a permit issued subject to the following conditions:

004.02A The sponsoring group shall be responsible for all costs associated with detouring the traffic from the highway right of way, damages to the highway, and hold the Department harmless from any claims that may result from the use of the highway for the snowmobile contest.

004.02B The sponsoring group shall provide a \$10,000 cash performance guarantee to the Department to cover any damages to the highway or expenses incurred by the Department due to the contest. The performance guarantee will be returned when the contest is over and the highway returned to its original condition. The group shall also provide a liability policy to the Department in the amount of one million dollars extended coverage with the Department named as additional insured.

004.02C All snowmobile operators shall comply with licensing and insurance requirements for motor vehicles as provided in the state statutes.

**ANNOTATION**

**Title 411  
Chapter 6**

**Enabling Legislation  
60-6,335 & 60-6,118  
Neb. Rev. Stat.**

