

	CATTLE CROSSING SIGN		Issued: NOV 2004
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RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	PART	HIGHWAY SIGNAGE	
	SECTION	WARNING SIGNS	
	SUB-SECTION		

General

In rural Alberta, farmers often organize cattle drives to move livestock from one field to another. Cattle drives vary in size, length and duration and are usually organized along low volume, local roadways to minimize interference with traffic.

In situations where the cattle drive uses a provincial highway, the organizers must take extra precautions to minimize the potential for collisions.

When a cattle drive uses a highway crossing on a regular basis, several times during the year, a Cattle Crossing Ahead sign may be installed in advance of such crossing to inform drivers about the cattle movements ahead.

Standard

A standard Cattle Crossing Ahead (WC-15) sign consists of a black silhouette of an animal on a yellow background.



WC-15	750 mm x 750 mm	
Colour	Symbol and Border Background	Black Yellow
Sheeting	ASTM, Type III or IV	

The standard size of a Cattle Crossing Ahead sign is 750 mm x 750 mm.

The educational tab sign (WC-15-T) may be attached to the Cattle Crossing Ahead sign to communicate in words the meaning of the cattle crossing symbol. The educational tab sign is normally needed when a new sign is first introduced in the area.



WC-15-T	600 mm x 300 mm	
Colour	Symbol and Border Background	Black Yellow
Sheeting	ASTM, Type III or IV	

Guidelines For Use

Cattle movements or crossings on freeways, expressways, and divided highways will not be allowed.

Preferably, routes for cattle drives should include low volume, lower speed, local roadways with good visibility in both directions.

All cattle drive operations must be organized in accordance with the guidelines included in the department's Special Events Guide section D2.14 entitled *Livestock /Trail Drives & Crossings*.

The guide provides information on the use of traffic control devices during the event, application forms, listing of district offices for permit applications, and examples of temporary signs.

The Special Events Guide is available from Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation district offices, and on the department website.

In some situations, where the visibility of the crossing along the highway is restricted and the temporary traffic control devices do not provide sufficient warning to the approaching traffic, an advance warning Cattle Crossing Ahead sign may be installed along the highway.

The sign may be considered under the following conditions:

- cattle movements across the highway are frequent during the year
- physical conditions of the site present an uncommon degree of hazard (e.g., insufficient sight distances along the highway).

No sign is required if the crossing can be seen from a distance greater than 300 m, since it is assumed that the driver can see the potential hazard and have enough time to stop.

The Cattle Crossing Ahead sign will not be installed if a cattle drive is a one-time event. During such an event, the organizers must rely on the use of flagpersons and temporary signs to provide warning to motorists about cattle manoeuvres ahead.

In order to transport cattle across a provincial highway, the organizers will need an approval from one of the Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation district offices.

The listing of district offices can be found on the following web page:

<http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/Content/docType329/Production/distaddress.pdf>

Guidelines for Placement

The Cattle Crossing Ahead sign should be placed a distance of 300 to 350 metres in advance of a crossing. Signs should be provided for both directions of travel. The Cattle Crossing Ahead sign is installed on the right-hand side of the highway.

If the signed crossing is no longer used, the signs must be taken down.

References to Standards

<i>Special Events Guide</i>	D2.14 Livestock /Trail Drives & Crossings
<i>Highway Geometric Design Guide, Section B.2</i>	Sight Distance