



Vehicle registration & licensing

Changes to Operation Permit requirements for snowmobiles and snow vehicles



As of January 1, 2012, a police-issued operation permit (MV1815) is not required for snowmobiles and snow vehicles crossing a highway that bisects a trail or resource road at controlled intersections where there is a stop sign or traffic control signal.

Operation permits continue to be required for uncontrolled intersections, travel along a highway or right-of-way, and for non-perpendicular highway crossings.

Registration and licensing:

- Snowmobiles used anywhere in BC, including highways, must be registered under the *Motor Vehicle (All Terrain) Act*, display a cowl decal, and operators must carry a certificate of Snowmobile Registration (MV1929).
- To be operated on a highway, snowmobiles and snow vehicles must be registered, licensed and insured with ICBC, and operators must carry the *Owner's Certificate of Insurance and Vehicle Licence* (APV 250) and a valid driver's licence.
- For highway operation, snowmobiles and snow vehicles are licensed with a restricted plate.



Operation Permit Requirements:

- Beginning January 1, 2012, the police-issued operation permit (MV1815) is not required if a person drives or operates a snowmobile or snow vehicle across a highway at right angles to the highway from a point where:
 - on highways with a speed limit of 100 km/hr or less, traffic crossing the highway is controlled by a stop sign or a traffic signal
 - on highways with a speed limit of over 100 km/hr, traffic crossing the highway is controlled with a traffic signal
- For all other highway operation, the police issued operation permit continues to be required and must be obtained from the police or RCMP detachment closest to where the vehicle will be operated. For the Gold Rush Snowmobile Trail, an



operation permit may be obtained from any RCMP detachment responsible for a Gold Rush Snowmobile Trail highway traverse.

- Police may continue to specify conditions in the permit to ensure safe operation such as restricting operation to certain times or areas to minimize interaction with other traffic.
- Snowmobiles and snow vehicles continue to be prohibited on a highway between one half hour after sunset and one half hour before sunrise, unless they are operating under an operation permit that provides otherwise.
- The permit, if required, must be carried by operators and produced for police upon request.
- More information about snowmobiles and other off-road vehicles can be found at: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/mof/orv/>

Administration:

- Beginning January 1, 2012, ICBC brokers and agents will no longer require the permit as a condition of licensing snowmobiles and snow vehicles as licensed highway operation can now occur in certain situations without the permit.
- Minor revisions to the permit will be made to reflect the new permit rules. Police may obtain the revised permit by faxing a requisition to the Burnaby Warehouse at (604) 320-2051.

Legislation and regulations

Motor Vehicle Act, section 3 – Registration and Licence

Motor Vehicle Act, Part 3 – “rules of the road”

Motor Vehicle Act Regulations, Division 1, Definitions

Motor Vehicle Act Regulations, Division 24, s. 24.05 - Vehicles of Unusual Size, Weight or Operating Characteristics

Motor Vehicle (All Terrain) Act, section 2 – Operation prohibited without registration

Contact

For more information, contact

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