

DOSH DIRECTIVE

Department of Labor and Industries
Division of Occupational Safety and Health
Keeping Washington safe and working

22.90

Enforcement of Load Limit Signage on Ferry Terminals

Updated: April 1, 2019

I. Purpose

This Directive establishes inspection policies and procedures related to the enforcement of the requirement for load limit signage on ferry structures that are part of the National Bridge Inventory, as required by WAC 296-56-60117(2), Maintenance and Load Limits.

For the purposes of this Directive, “CSHO” refers to both DOSH Inspectors and Consultants.

II. Scope and Application

This Directive applies to all DOSH operations statewide. It replaces all previous instructions on this issue, whether formal or informal. **DOSH has reviewed this Directive for applicability, and it remains effective with a new issue date of April 1, 2019.**

III. References

- Chapter 296-56 WAC, Longshore, Stevedore and Waterfront Related Operations
- DOSH Directive 21.95, Enforcement Activity Related to Piers and Docks
- National Bridge Inspection Standard, 23 CFR 650(c)

IV. Background

On August 1, 2012 the Department received a petition for rulemaking from the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) requesting that we exempt all state and local agency ferry terminal structures that are part of the National Bridge Inventory, from the requirements of WAC 296-56-60117(2), Maintenance and Load Limits. The Department determined that modification of our existing rule is not necessary at this time. As long as an employer follows the requirements of 23 CFR 650(c), National Bridge Inspection Standard, any issues regarding the lack of load limit signage is considered a de minimus violation and will not be cited. The Department is addressing this policy change by issuing this Directive to compliance staff.

V. Enforcement Policy

- A.** When conducting an enforcement inspection on a ferry terminal, the CSHO must verify the date of the terminal’s last inspection, and that the dock is part of the National Bridge Inventory. This information must be recorded in the inspection file.
- B.** Structures that are part of the National Bridge Inventory must be inspected every two years above water, and every five years underwater, in order to fulfill the requirements of that program. If the dock has not had its required inspection, then the CSHO may cite for a lack of load limit signs.

VI. Who to Contact

For additional information regarding this Directive, please contact the Maritime Supervisor.

VII. Review and Cancelation

DOSH will review this Directive within two years from the issue date, and it will remain effective until superseded or canceled.

Approved:



Anne F. Soiza
L. & I Assistant Director
Division of Occupational Safety and Health