




**Fire Chiefs Association** of **Santa Cruz County**  
**FIRE PREVENTION OFFICERS SECTION**

<b>FIRE PREVENTION STANDARDS</b>	DATE: <b>June 1, 2003</b>	NUMBER: <b>FP0-008</b>
	APPROVED: 	REVISED: 8/12/2024
	TITLE: <b>Bridges</b>	

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this standard is to provide minimum bridge specifications that require fire apparatus access within the County of Santa Cruz. When a bridge is required to be used as part of a fire apparatus access road, it shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with nationally recognized standards.

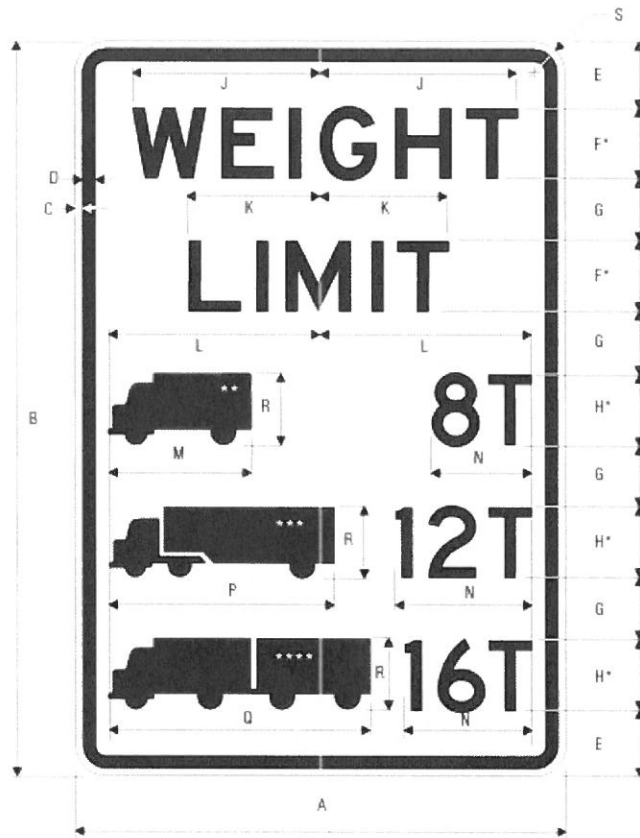
**SCOPE**

Bridge load limit signs and current certification by a licensed engineer shall be provided for all new and existing bridges located within the County of Santa Cruz.

**REQUIREMENTS**

1. Private bridge re-certification
  - A. Private bridges shall be recertified by a licensed engineer in accordance with the current version of the California Fire Code with local amendments.
  - B. Certified/recertified date shall be posted on the Weight Limit sign
2. Minimum sign specifications are as follows:
  - A. Signs shall be posted at both entrances to all private bridges.
  - B. Signs shall be a minimum of 18" x 24", 18-gauge steel sign white in color with black lettering.
  - C. Letters shall be a minimum of 3-1/2 inches in height with 3/8-inch stroke.
  - D. When bridge entrances are not lit, a reflective sign may be required
  - E. The bridge weight limit, as determined by a State of California Registered Civil or structural Engineer, shall appear above the words "TONS".
  - F. The sign will state:

(example)



R12-5

WEIGHT LIMIT

\*Series 2000 Standard Alphabets.  
 \*\*See page 6-4 for design  
 \*\*\*See page 6-5 for design  
 \*\*\*\*See page 6-6 for design

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	L	M
24	36	.375	.625	3.25	3.5 E	3	3.5 D	9.465	6.403	10.375	7
30	42	5	.75	3.75	4.5 E	3	4.5 D	12.016	8.192	13.188	9
36	48	.625	.875	5	5 E	3.25	5 D	13.350	9.099	15	10
48	60	.75	1.25	6	6 E	4.5	6 D	16.02	10.918	19	12

N	P	Q	R	S
VAR	11	12.813	3.5	1.5
VAR	13.438	16.438	4.5	1.875
VAR	15.438	18.375	5	2.25
VAR	19.688	22	6	3

COLORS: LEGEND — BLACK  
 BACKGROUND— WHITE (RETROREFLECTIVE)

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