

TO: All HQ Directors: Operations, Planning and Major Projects
All Regional Directors
All Managers, Traffic Engineering
All Senior Traffic Operations Engineers
All District Managers Transportation

SUBJECT: Horse and Rider Warning Signs (W-064-11 series)
(For use on unnumbered rural highways)

BACKGROUND:

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) has been approached by a group of riders and the Horse Council of B.C. regarding improvements to the horse and rider signage. Specifically, they are seeking to remind drivers to be more aware in areas where riders may be present and more courteous when passing horse and riders.

Previously, the horse and rider sign (W-064-11) was used on its own with minimal guidance on application or placement. Incorporating tabs that clarify where horseback riders may be present or reminding drivers to “share the road”, as they do with cyclists and pedestrians, may improve driver awareness, consideration, and safety for the horse and rider as well as the driver.

From the Manual of Standard Traffic Signs and Pavement Markings:

The horse and rider sign warns motorists of potential horseback riders on the roadway. This sign may be used on narrow or winding roadways where horseback riding is known to take place.

The W-064-11 sign shall be installed just prior to the start of any roadway used for horseback riding.

These revised guidelines provide more information about applications of the signs and introduces the use of tabs to provide more information for all road users.

REVISED GUIDELINES:

Horse and rider signs (W-064-11) alert motorists to the potential presence of horseback riders on the roadway.

Drivers in rural areas may not be expecting horses nor be familiar with the behaviour of horses. Loud noises or passing vehicles can spook a horse, causing them to throw their rider or move into the path of an oncoming vehicle. Applying tabs, to W-064-11 signs, that provide more information about where horses can be expected, or to share the road, can help prevent surprise and promote courtesy.

Where new or updated W-064-11 signs are requested, the requesting stakeholders will provide a written request including a map with riding routes clearly marked, to the local MOTI District.

Upon request, the District may install W-064-11 horse and rider signs, along with the appropriate tab, on unnumbered rural highways under one of the following three conditions:

1) An established trail crosses the roadway

If a trail crosses the roadway, the W-064-11 sign should be installed in advance of the crossing location as per Condition B of Table 1 in the Manual of Standard Traffic Signs and Pavement Markings (see appendix at the end of this document for the table).

A W-064-11-Ta Crossing tab should be installed below the W-064-11 sign.



2) An established trail runs along the roadway

The W-064-11 sign should be installed within 100 m in advance of where the trail enters the roadway.

If a trail runs for more than 3 km along the roadway, a confirmatory W-064-11 sign with distance tab may be installed at the midpoint. For example, if the trail runs for 7 km along the roadway, a confirmatory sign and tab should be installed around the 3.5 km mark.

A W-064-11-Tc Next X km or W-064-11-Td Next X00m tab should be installed below the W-064-11 sign.



3) An equestrian centre or group of riders regularly use the roadway

If the W-064-11 sign is being installed due to use of a roadway or area by horseback riders, the W-064-11 sign should be installed at the beginning of the route or the point where motorists may encounter horses and riders. It is desirable that the sign is installed at the earliest point along the unnumbered road where horseback riders could be encountered by motorists.

A W-064-11-Tb Share the Road tab may be installed below the W-064-11 sign in areas where there is insufficient shoulder space to accommodate horses (they will be using the travelled portion of the roadway).

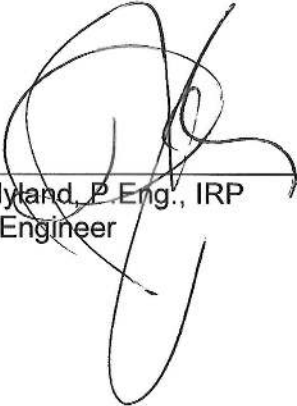


For (2) and (3), an additional confirmatory sign may be placed following intersections at the District's discretion. Typically, only intersections where the cross street is a through road of moderate to high volume would be considered.

If signs are requested on a numbered highway, approval by the Senior Traffic Operations Engineer is required.

CONTACT:

Jennifer Hardy, P.Eng.
Senior Traffic Standards Engineer
778-974-5336
Jennifer.L.Hardy@gov.bc.ca



Dirk Nyland, P.Eng., IRP
Chief Engineer

EXAMPLE



W-064-11



Zw-064-11-Ta



W-064-11-Ta



W-064-11-Tb



W-064-11-Tc



W-064-11-Td

Ref: H18 0093

Approved: November, 2018
Jerry Froese
Senior Traffic Engineer

Sign Item Number	Dimensions (W x H) mm	Substrate	Reflectivity (ASTM Type)	Colour	Approval Required	Typical Application
Zw-064-11 Tabs	600 x 300	0.081 AL	9	B / FLY	RTE	Local Road / Low Speed or Arterial
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Sign Description: Xxxxx.....