


DILLON ROAD OVER WHITEWATER RIVER (aka Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel) BRIDGE POSTING SIGN GUIDANCE & UNDERSTANDING BRIDGE WEIGHT LIMITS

The purpose of this document is to help the traveling public and road users

BACKGROUND

You may have noticed that the signs indicating maximum weight limits crossing our bridges have recently changed. They used to have three truck images with numbers next to those images' silhouettes which indicated the maximum gross vehicle weight (GVW) allowed to cross over those bridges per truck type. The units of the numbers represent tons (T).



**WEIGHT
LIMIT**

14T

21T

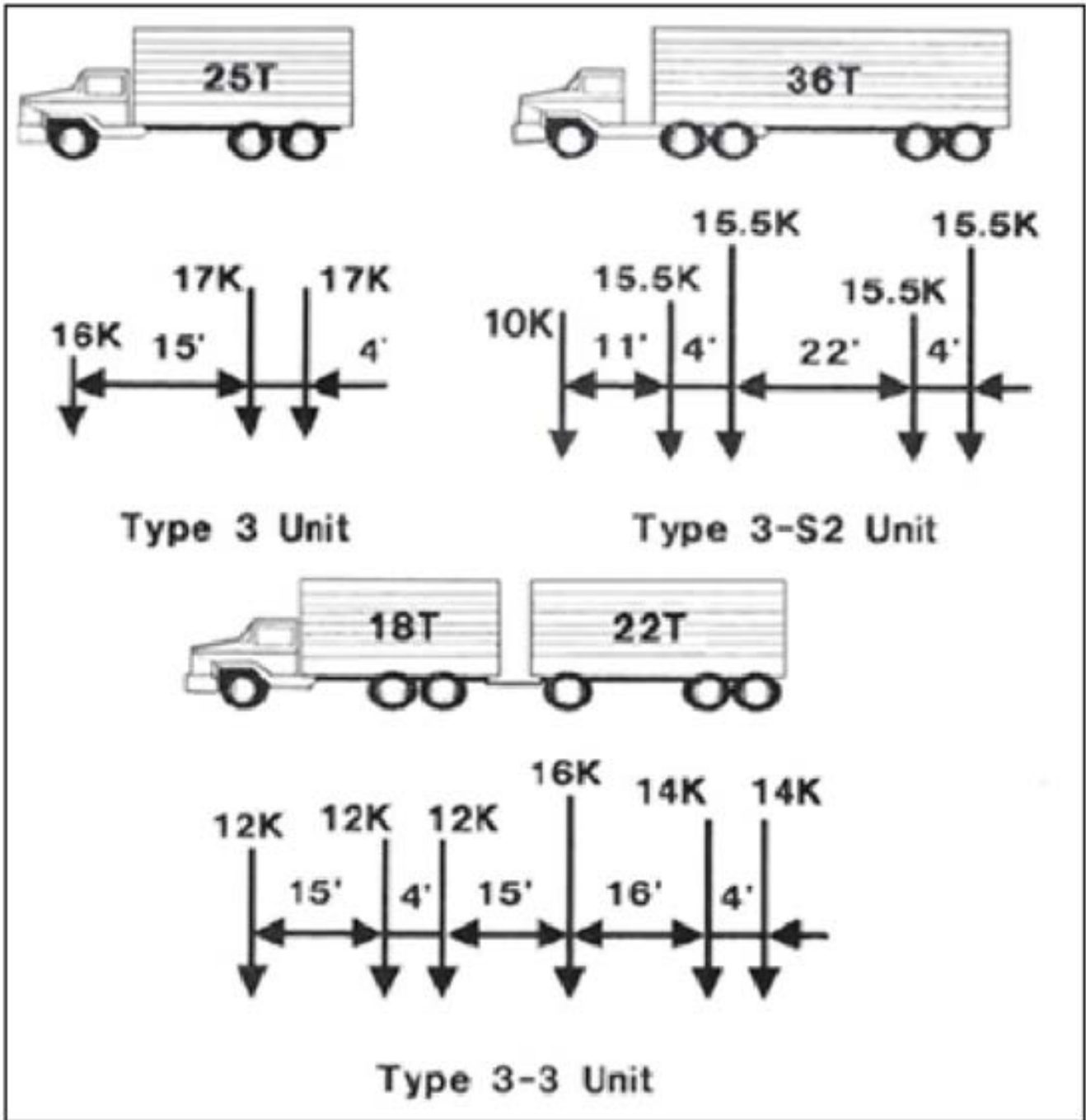
27T

R12-5
Weight Limit (symbols)

- Single Unit Truck (Type 3) is a **three axle single-unit vehicle** with a maximum legal capacity of **25 tons**. This sign indicates that this vehicle can weigh no more than **14 tons** max GVW, or **28,000 pounds**. Note that the image shows one chassis with no separation between tractor and trailer. **(14 tons < 25 tons)**
- Standard Semi-truck (Type 3S2) is a **five axle semi- tractor** and trailer combination with a **36 ton** maximum legal weight. This sign indicates that only vehicles weighing less than 21 Tons, or 42,000 pounds, can legally cross the bridge. Note that the image shows a space between the tractor and trailer meaning the two can easily be separated. **(21 tons < 36 tons)**
- Combination, or Tandem (Type 3-2) is a **five axle combination of a single-unit vehicle pulling a trailer with a GVW of 40 tons**; however, only tandems with a GVW less than 27 tons, or 54,000 pounds, can legally cross this bridge. **(27 tons < 40 tons)**

Figure 1 - Bridge posting sign (CA-MUTCD R12-5)

CALIFORNIA STANDARD LEGAL RATING



These illustrations show legal truck loads in California, which control weight limits for:

- Short- (Type 3 Unit),
- Medium- (Type 3-S2 Unit), and
- Long- (Type 3-3 Unit) span bridges, respectively.

The "T" refers to weight in tons, and "K" refers to weight in kips (1,000 pounds or 907 kilograms).

However, the existing **Dillon Road Bridge over the Whitewater River** no longer has the design capacity to carry to standard legal truck loads. Thus, the **legal loads have been reduced** as shown in the previous page.