

Wheeled All-Terrain Vehicles

HB 1632 (2013, 2nd Special Session)



What is a WATV?

- Any motorized non-highway vehicle
 - With handlebars 50 inches or less in width
 - Seat height of at least 20 inches
 - Weighs less than 1500 pounds
 - Four tires (diameter 30 inches or less)



OR.....

- a utility-type vehicle with 4 or more low-pressure tires
- maximum width less than 74 inches
- maximum weight less than 2000 pounds

Operator requirements:

- Have a valid driver license

OR

- Unlicensed youth under 16 may operate under supervision of licensed driver



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Licensing of Kawasaki

How do they differ from on-road motorcycles?

- On-road or “street legal” motorcycles (motor vehicles in general) are designed and manufactured to meet federal safety standards. (49 CFR 571)
 - *includes lights, turn signals, fuel tank, tires, frame design and crash resistance*

Where can WATVs be operated?

- **County roads with speed limit under 35 in counties with a population of less than 15,000.**
 - *counties may deem a roadway as unsuitable for WATVs.*
- **Counties with population of 15,000+ may authorize WATVs on certain roadways.**
- **Cities and towns may authorize use on their roadways under 35 mph.**

Licensing Timeline

- **Bill took effect July 2013, with emergency clause.**
- **Temporary registrations issued October 2013.**
- **On June 9, 2014, DOL began issuing metal tags using manual workaround.**
- **As of September 14, 2014 – DOL has licensed 1,517 WATVs.**

Challenging Implementation

- Law requires up to 2 registration types for each WATV. This is unique for our vehicle licensing system.
 - *on-road or off-road*

Challenges/Concerns/Potential Fixes

- Law does not provide authority for temporary permits (problematic for out-of-state visitors, etc.)
- Concern regarding clarity about where WATVs can be operated and traffic safety
- After-market equipment can be easily removed
- Manual process/workaround does not allow for the metal tag to be queried by law enforcement
- Other land-access issues beyond DOL