STATE OF MONTANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 11-2017

EXECUTIVE ORDER CONTINUING MEASURES TO COMBAT DROUGHT
STATEWIDE IN MONTANA

WHEREAS, since on or about April 1, 2017, a widespread drought in Montana has caused
significant injury to agricultural crops, including livestock forage, imposing economic hardships
on Montana’s farmers and ranchers;

WHEREAS, conditions have worsened throughout the summer as more Montana counties and
Indian reservations experience extreme and persistent drought conditions throughout the state;

WHEREAS, all Montana counties and Indian reservations have lower than normal moisture
accumulation, and dozens have experienced record or near-record levels of drought for months;

WHEREAS, relieving certain requirements for commercial motor vehicle carrier vehicles in
Montana will assist Montanans by reducing restrictions on the transport of forage, water, and
agricultural implements, including those requirements provided in §§ 61-10-154, 61-10-121, 61-
10-211, 15-70-456, MCA and A.R.M. § 18.8.1502;

WHEREAS, on August 25, 2017, the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier
Safety Administration added Montana to its emergency declaration, which exempts motor
carriers providing direct assistance to the drought from Parts 390 through 399 of Title 49, Code
of Federal Regulations; the exemption is in effect until 11:59 P.M. on October 26, 2017 or the
end of the emergency, whichever is sooner; and

WHEREAS, under § 61-10-111, MCA, the Governor may, through executive order, exempt
vehicles from certain size and weight limits for a specified, limited period of time during
emergency circumstances, including conditions brought about by a weather event or other
natural occurrence for which the movement of vehicles that may exceed size and weight limits is
necessary for responding to the event or occurrence or for moving supplies, agricultural, or other
products.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVE BULLOCK, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to
the authority vested in me as Governor under the Constitution and the laws of the State of
Montana, Title 61, Chapter 10, Section 111, MCA, and under other applicable statutes, do hereby
order the Director of the Montana Department of Transportation to:

(1) Allow baled livestock feed for drought relief efforts with a destination within the
boundaries of Montana to exceed the statutory limits of weight by 20 percent, provided
that the manufacturers’ rated capacity for the vehicle, axle or tires is not exceeded, on all
highways in the state except those that are part of the Federal aid interstate system; and
(2) Waive temporary registration, temporary fuel permits, and over-dimensional permits and requirements.

Commercial vehicle carriers, while under this Order, may not require or allow fatigued drivers to operate a motor vehicle.

This Order is effective immediately and expires at 11:59 P.M. on October 26, 2017 or at the end of the U.S. Department of Transportation’s emergency declaration, whichever is sooner.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this 16th day of September, 2017.

STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTEST:

COREY STAPLETON, Secretary of State

JEFFREY HUDGENS, DEPUTY