

Vehicle Inspections & Standards

BULLETIN

To All Designated Inspection Facilities and Authorized Inspectors

Re: Inspection of Flood Damaged Vehicles

This bulletin applies to ALL Designated Inspection Facilities (DIF) and Authorized Inspectors (AI).

DIFs and AIs should be aware that in instances of flooding vehicles impacted may be imported, auctioned, or sold in BC. As required by Motor Vehicle Act Regulation Division 25.24 vehicles under 3,500kg net weight that are previously titled, licensed or registered in another jurisdiction require a first time registered in BC inspection.

Both new and used vehicles may be flood damaged. B.C. registered vehicles with flood damage will be branded as non-repairable (or D) status by ICBC. This means they can be sold only for parts or scrap, not for actual operation.

DIFs and AIs must review all title, importation, registration and ownership documents to ensure that the vehicle is acceptable for inspection. Where no insurance claim was filed on a flood damaged vehicle, the branding status will not change to salvage.

Further, it is important that Authorized Inspectors ensure vehicles are thoroughly checked for flood damage. Any evidence of flood damaged is an automatic fail and the vehicle should not be passed.

Flood damaged vehicles are typically identified by (but not limited to):

- damp or musty odours inside the vehicle and in the trunk;
- signs of rust and mud in the vents, trunk, glove box and beneath the seats and dashboard;
- rusty brackets under the seats or carpets;
- discoloured upholstery or carpet that fits poorly or doesn't match exactly; and
- failing electrical systems.

If there is any evidence that a DIF has passed a vehicle with flood damage it may be deemed improperly inspected and the DIF and/or AI may be subject to enforcement action(s).

For further information, both [ICBC](#) and the BC [Motor Vehicle Sales Authority](#) have provided information in regard to claims and vehicle history on their websites.

Should you have further questions or concerns please contact Geoff.Ford@gov.bc.ca at 250-953-4039.

Regards,



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