

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | March 23, 2024

## **BRIDGE OVERPASS STRUCK BY OVERSIZE LOAD IN KIDDER COUNTY**

**What:** Property Damage Crash

**Where:** Westbound I94 / Mile Marker 197 overpass, 3 miles west of Steele

**When:** March 22, 2024, at 6:40 pm

**Road Conditions:** Good

**Weather Conditions:** Partly Cloudy, Clear

**Crash Involvement:** Vehicle/Bridge

**Type of Crash:** 1 Vehicle with Fixed Object-Bridge Overpass

**Agencies Involved:** North Dakota Highway Patrol, Kidder County Sheriff's Office, and North Dakota Department of Transportation

**Vehicle No. 1:** 2019 International Semi-Truck

**Driver No. 1:** Seth Ponder, 29-year-old male from Denver, Colorado, no injury.

**Charges:** Citation for no oversize permit

**Restraints:** seatbelt in use

**NARRATIVE:** A semi-truck was traveling westbound on I-94 near mile marker 197 in Kidder County, North Dakota. The semi-truck was hauling a coil tubing reel cradle on a flatbed trailer and was approximately 17 feet high. As the semi passed under the overpass at MM 197(22<sup>nd</sup> Ave SE) the top of the coil tubing reel struck the bottom of the overpass causing extensive damage to the concrete girders and load on the trailer. Concrete debris fell onto the interstate and the truck came to a stop a short time later. North Dakota Department of Transportation was contacted to inspect the bridge which was deemed structurally sound. No injuries were reported. The overpass at this location has a vertical clearance of 15 feet 11 inches. The driver was cited for not having an oversize permit.

The North Dakota Highway Patrol would like to stress the importance of obtaining required permits for all oversized vehicles to prevent such instances in the future. It is essential to obtain permits so the oversized vehicles/loads can be routed properly to bypass any width

and height restrictions on the highways. Permits and further information about legal vehicle size and weight can be obtained at the NDHP website <https://www.nd.gov/ndhp>



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