

W3-1

Stop Ahead

**CATEGORY**

Warning Signs

SHAPE

Diamond

COLOR

Yellow background

TYPICAL CA MINIMUM SIZE

48" x 48" on conventional roads; 60" x 60" on expressways and freeways

COMMON TCP PLACEMENT

Advance warning area, ahead of the work

CA MUTCD REFERENCE

CA MUTCD Part 6 (Temporary Traffic Control), Chapter 6F; warning-sign design in Part 2C

FIELD USE NOTES

The W3-1 Stop Ahead sign is a California MUTCD warning sign. It is shown here as an educational reference with the official FHWA Standard Highway Signs layout and California sizing guidance. In the field, W3-1 Stop Ahead is typically positioned at the advance warning area, ahead of the work. Common deployments include used where stop ahead conditions apply on a California project; selected and sized per the CA MUTCD and the roadway type; coordinated with the overall traffic control plan and permit. Always confirm its size, retroreflective sheeting, spacing, and placement against the CA MUTCD 2026 and the reviewing agency before finalizing the traffic control plan.

Official MUTCD reference: https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/kno-shs_2024.htm