

SECTION 201 CLEARING AND GRUBBING

201.01 Description. This work consists of clearing, grubbing, removing, and disposing of all vegetation and debris within the limits of construction unless otherwise indicated, except such objects as are designated to remain or are to be removed in accordance with other Sections of these Specifications. This work also includes the preservation from injury or defacement of all vegetation, trees, and objects designated to remain.

CONSTRUCTION METHODS.

201.02 General. The Contractor shall remove only material herein specified. If the Contractor chooses to do such work with mechanical equipment, and removes and wastes suitable embankment and topsoil material required on the Project, any suitable embankment and topsoil material removed with the cleared and grubbed material shall be replaced by the Contractor.

The Department reserves the right to require the Contractor to use a root rake if large quantities of suitable embankment and topsoil material is being wasted during the grubbing operation.

All arboriculture practices for tree care operations shall be conducted in accordance with ANSI Z133.1 as prepared by the International Society of Arboriculture.

201.03 Trees Designated to Remain. The Engineer shall designate such trees, shrubbery, and plants which are not to be removed, and the Contractor shall protect them from any damage. If any such trees, shrubbery, or plants are damaged, they shall be replaced or repaired by a certified tree surgeon. Branches of trees overhanging the roadbed shall be properly trimmed to maintain a clearance height of 20' (6 m), unless otherwise directed. All pruning shall be performed in accordance with the International Society of Arboriculture's Current Tree Pruning Guidelines, Publication ISBN 1-881956-07-5, and as illustrated on the Standard Construction Details.

201.04 Disposal. All materials removed by the clearing and grubbing operation shall become the property of the Contractor and shall be removed from the Project or otherwise disposed of as specified in [Subsection 106.09](#).

201.05 Preparation of Ground Surface. Grading operations shall not be started in any area until all operations of clearing and grubbing work within the area affected have been completed. In areas where excavation is to be made, the ground shall be cleared of all living or dead trees, stumps, brush, or other objectionable material. All embedded stumps, root mats, etc., shall be removed to a depth of not less than 2' (600 mm) below the subgrade or slope surfaces. All depressions made below the subgrade or slope surfaces by the removal of stumps or roots shall be backfilled with approved material and compacted as directed.

In areas where embankment is to be made 5' (1.5 m) or more in depth, where depth is measured from the bottom of the fill to the subgrade, trees and stumps shall be cut off as close to the ground as is practicable, but not to exceed 6" (150 mm) above the ground surface. In the area from the toe of the embankment slope to 5' (1.5 m) inside the embankment, all trees, stumps, roots, brush, root mat, and debris shall be removed.

In areas where embankment is to be made less than 5' (1.5 m) in depth, all trees, stumps, roots, brush, root mat, and debris shall be removed, grubbed, or blasted from the ground, in their entirety. Root mat shall be removed to the following depths unless otherwise indicated in the Contract:

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| a | Forested areas (within tree line shown on the Plans): | 2' (600 mm) |
| b | Scrub wooded areas: | 1' (300 mm) |
| c | Field areas: | vegetation only |

Clearing, grubbing, and excavation to permit installation of necessary ditches and sediment controls shall be done prior to clearing and grubbing the remainder of the Contract. Based on soil conditions encountered after completion and acceptance by the Engineer of the applicable clearing and grubbing, topsoil removal, and ditching, the Engineer may direct the Contractor to withhold all earth-moving activities for a maximum of 14 calendar days to allow for drying and solidification of the ground.

201.06 Clearing and Grubbing Limitations. The Engineer reserves the right to limit clearing and grubbing operations in order to ensure compliance with the applicable erosion and sediment control regulations.

The maximum exposed surface area of erodible soil, due to clearing and grubbing operation, shall be 20 ac (8 ha).

201.07 Clearing Outside the Limits of Construction. All trees that interfere with sight distance, either vertically or horizontally, shall be cleared from the right-of-way and easement areas. If noted in the Contract, right-of-way and easement areas shall be cleared, flush with the ground, of all trees, brush, shrubs, downed timber, rotten wood, rubbish, and other objectionable debris and vegetation.

201.08 Removal of Other Obstructions. Fences and guardrail upon or within the limits of construction, shall be removed carefully by the Contractor, wholly or in part, as specified or directed, and disposed of as specified or directed, except as otherwise indicated in the Contract. Buildings and other structures shall be removed by the Department or other responsible authority unless otherwise provided. Footings, pipes, conduits, drainage inlets and grates, and similar items which are located beneath the ground surface are not to be removed under [Section 201](#).

201.09 Method of Measurement. The quantity of clearing and grubbing will not be measured.

201.10 Basis of Payment. The quantity of clearing and grubbing will be paid for at the Contract lump sum. Price and payment will constitute full compensation for replacement of suitable material that was cleared and grubbed; for furnishing and compacting approved material to fill all depressions; for replacement or repair of damaged trees, shrubbery, or plants designated to remain; for disposal; and for all labor, equipment, tools, and incidentals required to complete the work.

All costs associated with the direction to withhold earth-moving activities will be incidental to the work.