

201 CLEARING AND GRUBBING

201-1 Description

Normally this operation is the first phase of construction. It consists of clearing the area within the project limits of all obstructions and vegetation in accordance with the specifications prior to commencing any earth-moving activity. During the clearing and grubbing operations, care should be taken to limit the activity of the contractor to an area within the slope stake boundaries as much as possible. The intent is to preserve as much vegetation outside the slope stake limits as possible. When clearing limits are staked by the contractor, care must be taken to assure the slope rounding details in the Standard Drawings are followed and the additional distance for slope rounding is cleared.

When the contractor provides a material source, plant site, or equipment yard, he or she will be required to prepare an environmental analysis addressing the usage (refer to Special Provisions Subsection 104.12, 107.11, and 1001-4). In addition, the contractor must notify the Arizona Commission of Agriculture and Horticulture prior to any clearing operation. The purpose of this notice is to provide the opportunity for salvage and preservation as provided in the Arizona Native Plant Law. The Resident Engineer should bring these requirements up at the preconstruction meeting if it is applicable to the project. This applies to privately owned land as well as publicly owned land. Environmental conditions often restrict operations in watershed areas.

The Standard Specifications provides requirements for saving all trees and shrubs found suitable for roadside improvement and beautification if they will not interfere with construction. In order for the contractor to know which trees and shrubs are to be saved, the Resident Engineer (with the assistance of one of ADOT's Construction Landscape Architects) shall mark such trees and shrubs in a distinguishable manner. The contractor should be informed of this marking.

When sufficient clearing and grubbing has been done to permit the start of grading operations, an inspection of the area shall be made (including adequate removal of all roots and deleterious materials) and, if found acceptable, the contractor can be allowed to proceed.

201-3 Construction Requirements

201-3.02 Removal and Disposal of Materials

Disposition of cleared materials requires careful attention. All cleared and grubbed material must be removed and disposed of before earthwork operations can begin.

The Standard Specifications provide that all debris from the clearing and grubbing operations shall be removed from the project and disposed of. All disposal is to be made outside of the right-of-way, and the contractor must obtain written permission from the land owner (not the tenant) for such use of the land. A copy of such written consent must be given to the Resident Engineer.

The use of any disposal site and haul roads, public or private, may require an Environmental Analysis. If areas outside of the project limits are being considered and not commercially cleared, the Resident Engineer should consult with ADOT's Environmental Planning Group. Remember that impacts of activities off the project can be in conflict with the project environmental analysis on which the project approval is based. Prior to any clearing and grubbing a noxious and invasive species inspection needs to be completed to determine if any manual or chemical treatment should be done prior to any disturbance on the project site if required per the project plans. The ADOT Construction Landscape Architect will assist in determining what type of treatment shall be done if necessary prior to any construction activity.

201-4 Method of Measurement and 201-5 Basis of Payment

Clearing and grubbing may be paid for as a lump sum or by the area. Measurements of the actual areas to be cleared should be made before the clearing operation begins. Quantities should be computed and the contractor advised so that a verification of the quantity can be made if required before the area is disturbed.

If clearing and grubbing are not paid for directly, the clearing limits should still be documented.