

Public Realm

Master Specification

PR-MA-M1 Herbaceous and Woody Weed Control

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PR-MA-M1 Herbaceous and Woody Weed Control

1 General

- 1.1 This Part specifies the requirements for control of herbaceous and woody weeds, as well as the control of vegetation on roadsides for maintenance purposes.
- 1.2 This Part references the following documents:
 - a) DIT Vegetation Removal Policy
 - b) DIT Weeds List
 - c) DIT Rail and Roadside Significant Sites Environmental Instruction 21.5
 - d) DIT Herbicide Resistance Environmental Instruction 21.4
 - e) DIT Phytophthora (Dieback) Control Environmental Instruction 21.3
 - f) Controlled Substances Act 1984
 - g) Controlled Substances (Pesticides) Regulations 2017
 - h) Dangerous Substances Act 1979
 - i) Environmental Protection Act 1993
 - j) Natural Resources Management Act 2004
 - k) Native Vegetation Act 1991
 - l) Development Act 1993
- 1.3 Departmental publications are available from: <http://www.dpti.sa.gov.au/standards/environment>.
- 1.4 Environmental weed species are listed in the DIT Weeds List.
- 1.5 Roadside Significant Sites include sites that are of natural and cultural significance and are marked on the roadside by white and blue signs affixed to star droppers. Works within a Roadside Significant Site must be undertaken in accordance with the Department's Rail and Roadside Significant Sites Environmental Instruction 21.5.
- 1.6 Phytophthora
 - a) The Contractor must operate in accordance with the Department's Phytophthora (Dieback) Control Environmental Instruction 21.3.
 - b) Prior to commencing works onsite, the Contractor must undertake a Phytophthora risk assessment to determine the required hygiene procedures and disposal requirements for the works.

2 Weed and Vegetation Control

- 2.1 Unless specified by the Principle, all weeds in the Department's Weeds List and those identified on the Vegetation Survey shall be controlled within the areas specified in the Contract.
- 2.2 The Contractor must ensure that all approvals required in accordance with relevant legislation such as the Natural Resources Management Act 2004 and Native Vegetation Act 1991, and the Department's Vegetation Removal Policy have been obtained prior to commencing vegetation control work.
- 2.3 The Contractor must avoid impacting all non-target vegetation.
- 2.4 All weed and vegetation control activities must be carried out by personnel who are trained/qualified to the appropriate level for the type of work being performed and have a full appreciation of the principles, techniques, hazards and safety procedures involved.

- 2.5 All equipment used must comply with any applicable standard (including noise and spark arrestor requirements), be properly maintained and in good working order, and be appropriate for the type of works being undertaken.
- 2.6 The Contractor must carry out the work in a manner which minimises disturbance to soil and watercourses, and does not spread weeds, Phytophthora or other soil borne pathogens.
- 2.7 Weed and Vegetation Control Methods
- a) The Contractor is responsible for determining the most suitable method(s) of weed and vegetation control. Control must occur at the optimum time applicable to minimising weed spread (e.g. before seed set) or as agreed by the Principal.
 - b) The Contractor shall use the following methods of weed and vegetation control:
 - i) Slash only
 - ii) Slash and spray
 - iii) Boom spray
 - iv) Spot spray
 - v) Hand pull
 - vi) Cut only
 - vii) Cut and swab
- 2.8 Herbicide Use
- a) Herbicide use must meet the requirements of relevant legislation including the Agricultural and Veterinary Products (Control of Use) Act 2002, Controlled Substances Act 1984, Dangerous Substances Act 1979, and Environmental Protection Act 1993. Refer to Primary Industries and Regions SA, Biosecurity SA Division, Rural Chemicals webpage http://pir.sa.gov.au/biosecurity/rural_chemicals for further information.
 - b) Herbicide control must be undertaken in accordance with the Department's Herbicide Resistance Environmental Instruction 21.4, which describes herbicide types, locations for allowable use and rotation requirements.
 - c) All chemicals must be used according to the registered label requirements and/or permit conditions. This includes the appropriate selection of chemicals for use in the vicinity of waterbodies.
 - d) A red marking dye must be added to the herbicide mix.
 - e) The Contractor shall ensure that all staff involved in chemical weed control have a relevant Pest Management Technician's Licence and are operating under a relevant Pest Controller's Licence. The Contractor shall provide evidence of the licences specified above prior to commencement of a spraying program.
 - f) The Contractor must advise the Principal of any requests for changes to restricted herbicide use areas.
 - g) Appendix 1: Herbaceous and Woody Weed Control Schedule shall be completed by the Contractor and updated as required during the Contract period recommending preferred methods of weed control for the specific project, and chemicals and application rates to be used.

3 Fauna Protection

- 3.1 The Contractor shall implement all reasonably practicable measures to minimise disturbance to fauna.
- 3.2 If the Contractor's actions injures fauna on site, the Contractor shall contact Fauna Rescue SA, the RSPCA or a veterinarian for advice if any injured fauna is found on the Site.
- 3.3 The Contractor shall under the supervision of a suitably qualified person, relocate any native fauna to a similar habitat if that fauna's habitat will be destroyed by the Contractor's work.

4 Disposal of Cut Material

- 4.1 The Contractor must obtain all required permits for transportation of declared weed species from the relevant authority.
- 4.2 Material Containing Woody Weeds
 - a) All treated plant material containing woody environmental weed species and woody weed species declared under the Natural Resources Management Act 2004 must be removed from the site and disposed of at a licensed waste facility. To facilitate effective control, removal off site may be undertaken at a time subsequent to the original herbicide treatment.
- 4.3 Other (Non-propagating) Material
 - a) Non-declared treated vegetative material that will not propagate shall be retained, or chipped, and be spread on site. The material must:
 - i) not pose an unacceptable risk to public safety or property;
 - ii) not be spread on pedestrian/multiple-use paths, vehicle access tracks, or the road shoulder;
 - iii) not be spread on turf areas;
 - iv) be evenly spread at a depth not exceeding 100 mm;
 - v) not obstruct drainage infrastructure such as swales, culverts and open drains;
 - vi) not significantly increase the current fuel load;
 - vii) avoid native and amenity vegetation, including but not limited to indigenous grasses and ground covers;
 - viii) and not be spread or disposed of within any Roadside Significant Site.
 - b) If there is excess vegetative material, the Contractor must remove that from the Site.

5 Prevention of Suckering and Regrowth

- 5.1 The Contractor is responsible for determining the most suitable method of preventing suckering and regrowth.
- 5.2 The Contractor must ensure that suckering or regrowth of removed or treated vegetation does not occur within 12 months of initial treatment.

6 Stump Removal

- 6.1 Where the stump location will be unpaved or unsealed, the Contractor must cut the stump to existing ground level, ensuring no trip hazards remain.
- 6.2 Where the stump location will be paved or sealed, the Contractor must grind the stump to at least 300 mm below the underside of the pavement level and backfill so that the surface does not present a hazard.
- 6.3 The Contractor must not undertake stump removal of a tree utilising a method that will affect the health or stability of surrounding trees that are to be retained.
- 6.4 The Contractor must not disturb underground services during tree stump removal.

7 Damage and Nuisance

- 7.1 If the Contractor impacts vegetation without the required approvals, the Contractor will be liable to pay the offset amount in accordance with the Native Vegetation Act 1991 for native vegetation, the Development Act 1993 for regulated and significant trees, or the Department's Vegetation Removal Policy for amenity vegetation.

- 7.2 The Contractor shall ensure that the work is carried out with minimal disruption and nuisance to the public.
- 7.3 The Contractor shall comply with any reasonable direction from the Principal to minimise disruption and nuisance at its own expense.
- 7.4 The Contractor shall repair or reinstate any damage caused by the Contractor's activities to existing vegetation and infrastructure assets (including roadside furniture) at its own expense.

8 Records and Reporting

- 8.1 The Contractor must keep daily records of herbicide applications. A copy of the records must be provided to the Principal when submitting any associated invoice and whenever requested by the Principal.
- a) The records must indicate:
- i) contractor and operator(s);
 - ii) contract reference, e.g. contract number; date, spray start time and finish time;
 - iii) weather conditions including temperature, wind speed, wind direction and rainfall (relative humidity and Delta T may also be recorded);
 - iv) locations, i.e. road reserve details (including road number and name, section (start and finish Maintenance Markers (MM)), side of road) or the property address;
 - v) details of application method including equipment type, nozzle type and flow rate, spray pressure, spray volume, and travel speed;
 - vi) details of chemicals used including product and adjuvant names (e.g. herbicide/surfactant/dye), application rate, area treated, situation including weed species controlled;
 - vii) and any supporting notes, e.g. weed growth stage/plant condition, water source, reasons and length of any delays.

9 Hold Points

- 9.1 There are no Hold Points associated with this Part.
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Appendix 1: Herbaceous and Woody Weed Control Schedule

METHOD:

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HERBICIDE DETAILS:

DESCRIPTION	APPLICATION RATE	
Chemicals to be used for Broadleaf Weeds	Rate per litre	
Chemicals to be used for Foliar Spray	Rate per litre	
Chemicals to be used for herbaceous weed control, if applicable	Rate per litre water	Litres per hectare

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Contractor's signature

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Date