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REVISION REGISTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ed/Rev Number</th>
<th>Clause Number</th>
<th>Description of Revision</th>
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<td>Ed 1/Rev 0</td>
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<td>4.1</td>
<td>Clause reference to GC21 removed.</td>
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</table>
**Specification G40**


**Using Specification G40**

G40 is a QA specification and the use of QA specifications requires the implementation of a quality system by the Contractor that meets the quality management system requirements specified in Specification Q. To comply with the intention of government policy as well as G40, clearing and grubbing works undertaken using G40 require adequate surveillance and audit by the Principal.

G40 is a “proforma” model specification and must be customised by the TENDER DOCUMENTER for each specific project.

Where customisation is likely to be required prompts are shown in boxes within the text, as illustrated below:

```plaintext
Example: List any additional work such as trimming and stockpiling the trunks and stumps of native trees as required by the EIS or REF, Representations Report, Concurrence Report, Decision Report/Planning Approval, any Conditions of Approval and the landscape drawings.
```

If any issue is not relevant for your project, delete the boxed text.

If an issue is relevant, delete the borders around the text, modify the text to suit your circumstances, adjust the margins so the customised paragraphs line up with the general text and match the font size, this can be done by selecting the whole box and ‘Main Text’ in the menu bar. Then set the customised paragraphs in bold italic.

After completing the customisation, check the pagination of the whole document and insert page breaks if necessary to achieve continuity within tables. Then return to CONTENTS, page (with Tools – Track changes turned off) to highlight and automatically revise listing and page numbers.

This customisation must be done carefully because tenderers will rely on G40 to price their clearing and grubbing obligations for the project.

**Clause 1.1 Scope**

The intent of G40 is that all existing vegetation, except weeds and exotics, should be recycled and remain on site whenever possible.

Mulching of the native vegetation which is removed during clearing and grubbing is one method of recycling which will usually be applicable. Another possibility is the use of selected trunks and branches of native trees, placed outside the hazard line (see comments on Clause 1.3 below), to assist in the prevention of soil erosion and the capture of sediment, to assist vegetation and to provide fauna habitat. Tree stumps may also be used in the same areas provided they are not placed in a manner which will be a barrier for fauna and also provided they are arranged so that they are not visible above the surrounding vegetation when viewed from the roadway or from nearby private property. If such use of tree trunks and stumps or other additional work is required it should be nominated in this clause and additional requirements inserted in Clause 4.

Other environmentally responsible options may be possible in some circumstances; an example would be the sale of suitable trees for milling into timber.
Clause 1.2 Structure of the Specification

The TENDER DOCUMENTER should ensure that any further standards, specifications and test methods mentioned in project specific additions are included in this clause.

Clause 1.3 Definitions

The term “hazard line” has been introduced to ensure that the clear zone (where there is no protection afforded by a safety barrier), or the space required for the dynamic deflection and/or working width of a safety barrier system, is clear of any trees of sufficient size to be a hazard. For details of the clear zone concept and the dynamic deflection and/or working width requirements for safety barrier systems refer to the RMS Road Design Guide.

Clause 2.1 Area to be Cleared for the Formation

Where the area to be cleared for the formation can be reduced below that specified the limits of clearing should be shown on the Drawings or project specific modifications made to this clause.

Clause 2.2 Area to be cleared Outside the Formation

It is necessary for the design team to consider both the clear zone (where no safety barriers are to be provided) and the space required for the dynamic deflection and/or working width of a safety barrier system during the design process. The designer is best placed to define a line on each side of each carriageway within which no hazards (including trees over 100 mm diameter) are to remain. In this specification this line or, preferably, a geometrically simpler line which is never closer to the carriageway than the minimum distance calculated at each cross section, is referred to as the “hazard line”. The hazard line should be shown on the Drawings as a string on the detail plans or on the cross sections.

Where the removal of other hazards (such as rock outcrops or power poles) is required suitable project specific provisions should be included in the contract documents.

The method of removal of overhanging branches requires that they be cut off flush with the tree trunk in accordance with normal horticultural practice. The remaining section of a branch which has been cut off away from the trunk is a source of decay which could spread to the trunk.

Clause 4 Production and stockpiling of Mulch

This clause covers production and stockpiling of mulch for later use in landscape planting and elsewhere. Mulching of trees from clearing and grubbing should be encouraged even when the mulch is not required for site works.

The TENDER DOCUMENTER should consider the RMS Stockpile Sites Management Procedures and any site specific requirements and make project specific additions or alterations as necessary. Considerations should include restrictions on siting of stockpiles and the need for stockpile sites to be fenced.

Annexure G40/B Measurement and Payment

Pay item G40P1 has been worded to ensure that the contract rate only applies to areas actually required to be cleared and grubbed. The TENDER DOCUMENTER should make project specific amendments where necessary.
## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLAUSE</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOREWORD</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMS Copyright and Use of this Document</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revisions to Previous Version</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Specific Changes</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 GENERAL</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Scope</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Structure of the Specification</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Definitions</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 CLEARING</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Area to be Cleared for the Formation</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Area to be Cleared Outside the Formation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Area to be Cleared for Bridges</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Clearing</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 Clearing of Built Structures</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 GRUBBING</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF MULCH</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1 Mulch</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Mulch Stockpiles</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 DISPOSAL OF MATERIALS</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEXURE G40/A – PROJECT REQUIREMENTS</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1 Clearing for Bridgeworks</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEXURE G40/B – MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEXURE G40/C – SCHEDULES OF HOLD POINTS AND IDENTIFIED RECORDS</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C1 Schedule of HOLD POINTS</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2 Schedule of Identified Records</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEXURE G40/D – PLANNING DOCUMENTS</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEXURES G40/E TO G40/L – (NOT USED)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEXURE G40/M – REFERENCED DOCUMENTS</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAST PAGE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
FOREWORD

RMS COPYRIGHT AND USE OF THIS DOCUMENT

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When this document forms part of a contract

This document should be read with all the documents forming the Contract.

When this document does not form part of a contract

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REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS VERSION

This document has been revised from Specification RMS G40 Edition 1 Revision 0.

All revisions to the previous version (other than minor editorial and project specific changes) are indicated by a vertical line in the margin as shown here, except when it is a new edition and the text has been extensively rewritten.

PROJECT SPECIFIC CHANGES

Any project specific changes are indicated in the following manner:

(a) Text which is additional to the base document and which is included in the Specification is shown in bold italics e.g. Additional Text.

(b) Text which has been deleted from the base document and which is not included in the Specification is shown struck out e.g. Deleted Text.
RMS QA SPECIFICATION G40
CLEARING AND GRUBBING

1 GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

The work to be executed under this Specification consists of the clearing of all vegetation, both living and dead, all minor built structures (such as fences and livestock yards), all rubbish and other materials which are unsuitable for use in the Works, and the grubbing of trees and stumps from the area defined in Clause 2.

The work includes the mulching of native trees, stockpiling the mulch, and the removal from site and disposal of all materials from built structures, rubbish, weeds and exotic plants.

List any additional work such as trimming and stockpiling the trunks and stumps of native trees as required by the EIS or REF, Representations Report, Concurrence Report, Decision Report/Planning Approval, any Conditions of Approval and the landscape drawings.

In advance of, or in conjunction with, clearing and grubbing operations, effective erosion and sediment control measures must be implemented as required in the Specification RMS G38.

The clearing and grubbing required for boundary fencing is included in Specification RMS R201 and does not form part of the work under this Specification.

1.2 STRUCTURE OF THE SPECIFICATION

This Specification includes a series of annexures that detail additional requirements.

1.2.1 Project Requirements

Project Requirements are shown in Annexure G40/A.

1.2.2 Measurement and Payment

The method of measurement and payment is detailed in Annexure G40/B.

1.2.3 Schedules of HOLD POINTS and Identified Records

The schedules in Annexure G40/C list the HOLD POINTS that must be observed. Refer to Specification RMS Q for the definition of HOLD POINTS.

The records listed in Annexure G40/C are Identified Records for the purposes of RMS Q Annexure Q/E.

1.2.4 Planning Documents

The PROJECT QUALITY PLAN must include each of the documents and requirements listed in Annexure G40/D and must be implemented.
In all cases where this Specification refers to the manufacturer’s recommendations, these must be included in the PROJECT QUALITY PLAN.

1.2.5 Referenced Documents

Unless specified otherwise, the applicable issue of a referenced document, other than an RMS Specification, must be the issue current at the date one week before the closing date for tenders, or where no issue is current at that date, the most recent issue.

Standards, specifications and test methods are referred to in abbreviated form (e.g. AS 2350). For convenience, the full titles are given in Annexure G40/M.

1.3 DEFINITIONS

The terms “you” and “your” mean “the Contractor” and “the Contractor’s” respectively.

The following definitions apply to this Specification:

**Ecologist**
Ecologists are people whose qualifications and experience in botany, environmental science, landscaping or bush regeneration and experience in identifying weeds and other plant species are accepted by the Principal.

**Hazard line**
A line shown on the Drawings to indicate the outer limits of the roadside zone which must remain free of hazards. In this context a tree with a trunk diameter exceeding 100 mm is considered a hazard.

**Tree**
In this Specification, the term “tree” includes a shrub.

**Weeds**
Weed species include but are not necessarily limited to, those listed by the relevant local government authority as noxious categories W1, W2, W3, or W4 under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993. Also included under this definition are agricultural and horticultural weed species and in particular invasive grasses such as *Chloris gayana* (Rhodes Grass), *Phalaris sps.*, *Eragrostis curvula* complex (African Lovegrass), *Andropogon virginicus* (Whisky Grass) and *Nassella trichotoma* (Serrated Tussock).

Where necessary, advice must be sought from an Ecologist in order to determine whether the type and/or proportion of weed cover are significant for the purposes of this definition.

2 CLEARING

2.1 AREA TO BE CLEARED FOR THE FORMATION

Unless shown otherwise on the Drawings, the area to be cleared for the formation is that which will be occupied by the completed formation plus a clearance of 4 m beyond tops of cuts and toes of embankments where the natural fall of the ground is towards the roadway and 2 m beyond the tops of cuts and toes of embankments where the natural fall of the ground either slopes away from the roadway or is level.

Also clear areas that will be occupied by ancillary earth features shown on the Drawings, including sediment basins and traps, open drains and diversion banks.
2.2 AREA TO BE CLEARED OUTSIDE THE FORMATION

Any area outside the area to be cleared for the formation as defined in Clause 2.1 and which the Principal has approved as a site for the Contractor’s facilities, the Principal’s accommodation, stockpiles, borrow pits or any other purpose connected with the contract must be cleared to the extent required for the approved purpose. The area cleared must be the minimum consistent with the intended use.

All trees, stumps and logs of the sizes listed below which are outside the area to be cleared for the formation as defined in Clause 2.1 but which are within the hazard line shown on the Drawings must be removed with a minimum of disturbance to adjacent trees and other vegetation. The sizes of the trees, stumps and logs that must be removed are shown in Table G40.1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tree</td>
<td>Trunk diameter 100 mm or more at a point 1.5 m above the adjacent ground level</td>
<td>Remove tree and stump for disposal in accordance with Clause 4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stump projecting 1.5 m or more above the adjacent ground level</td>
<td>Trunk diameter 100 mm or more at a point 1.5 m above the adjacent ground level</td>
<td>Remove stump for disposal in accordance with Clause 4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stump projecting less than 1.5 m above the adjacent ground level</td>
<td>Trunk diameter 100 mm or more at the top of the remaining trunk</td>
<td>Remove stump for disposal in accordance with Clause 4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Log</td>
<td>Diameter 100 mm or more at any point</td>
<td>Remove entire log for disposal in accordance with Clause 4.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All minor built structures within the road reserve must be removed unless otherwise shown on the drawings or marked to be preserved.

2.3 AREA TO BE CLEARED FOR BRIDGES

At bridges, all trees and stumps and all built structures must be removed within the area specified in Annexure G40/A except:

(a) where shown otherwise on the Drawings; or
(b) marked to be preserved; or
(c) within 5 m of the bank of any stream or other waterway.

Trees outside this area but having branches overhanging the bridge must have their branches lopped to be 3 metres clear of the bridge.

Trees within 10 m of the centreline of the bridge and within 5 metres of the bank of any stream or other waterway must be cleanly cut off between 300 mm and 600 mm above the adjacent ground level so that stable vegetation is retained on the banks. This work must be undertaken in consultation with the Principal.
2.4 CLEARING

Before clearing commences, identify the limits of clearing by clearly visible markers placed at 25 m intervals on each side of the road formation and bridges as shown on the Drawings. Also provide a report which:

(a) includes a statement from an Ecologist that identifies the species and location of any weeds growing anywhere in the road reserve over the length to be cleared and grubbed;

(b) identifies all locations of threatened flora species and trees which have been marked or otherwise identified for preservation; and

(c) lists any trees outside the limits of clearing which are unsound and likely to fall upon the roadway or onto private property.

Plan and carry out all operations to ensure that there is no damage to any trees outside the limits of clearing specified.

Trees nominated in (c) above must be marked and identified in the clearing and grubbing plan in a manner which allows them to be identified as one of the listed trees and whether pruning or removal is recommended. Areas of weed infestation identified in the ecologist report (Clause 2.4 (a) must be marked).

HOLD POINT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process Held.</th>
<th>Clearing any area of work.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Submission Details.</td>
<td>Clearing and Grubbing Plan (Annexure G40/D) and report on the presence of weeds and unsound trees together with written notice that limits of clearing and areas of weed infestation identified in the ecologist report (Clause 2.4 (a) are marked), at least seven days before starting any clearing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Release of Hold Point.</td>
<td>The Principal will consider the submitted documents, inspect and mark trees or built structures for preservation, prior to authorising the release of the Hold Point.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Before commencing clearing and grubbing all soil erosion and sedimentation controls required for this phase of construction must be installed in accordance with RMS G38. All staff must be made aware of the Noxious Weeds present on-site and requirements related to the listing under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

Weeds must be removed and disposed of in accordance with the requirements of the local Council. Removal of weeds growing in the area to be cleared and grubbed must be carried out at your cost. Removal and disposal of weeds growing in the road reserve outside the area to be cleared and grubbed may be directed by the Principal as a Variation to the Contract unless the Principal elects to have this work carried out by others.

Take protective measures during the operations of clearing and road construction to avoid damaging or destroying threatened flora species and trees which have been marked or otherwise identified for preservation. These measures must include but not be limited to:

(i) fencing around trees clear of the canopy line;

(ii) ensuring no materials are stockpiled and no vehicles are parked under the canopy;

(iii) avoiding excavation or the placing of fill near any tree without advice from an ecologist; and

(iv) routing haul roads and access tracks clear of the canopy.
If any tree, which must be preserved, is found to be within the area to be covered by embankment, protective measures for the tree and safety barriers of a type not specifically shown on the Drawings will be directed as a Variation to the Contract.

Those trees remaining within the road reserve, but outside the limits of clearing, which the Principal has agreed to be unsound and are likely to fall upon the roadway or onto private property, must be cleared or pruned in accordance with AS 4373.

Any branch, which overhangs the road formation, must be cut back flush with the tree trunk in accordance with AS 4373.

Every precaution must be taken to prevent timber from falling on private property and dispose of any timber so fallen or produce written consent of the owner to its remaining there.

Existing trees, grasses and other ground cover must be retained within 15 m of rivers, creeks and watercourses and in all drainage lines until immediately before construction commences in the area. An access track may be constructed across these areas on an alignment that will minimise erosion. Notwithstanding the retention of the ground cover, soil erosion and sedimentation controls for the area must be installed in accordance with RMS G38. All trees in these areas must be felled manually, leaving grasses and small understorey species wherever possible.

Damage of any kind, including damage to fencing or trees or other vegetation outside the limits of clearing, which occurs during clearing operations, must be made good by you.

Holes left following the removal of trees and stumps must be backfilled and vegetated as described in Clause 3.

2.5 CLEARING OF BUILT STRUCTURES

Built structures, other than those marked or identified for preservation, must be completely removed, including footings. Built structures which are discovered during clearing and grubbing are to be retained until the Principal authorises their removal. Holes must be backfilled and vegetated as described in Clause 3.

3 GRUBBING

All trees and stumps, on or within the limits of clearing defined in Clauses 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3, and which are unable to be felled and removed by the clearing methods used by you, must be removed by grubbing.

Grubbing operations must be carried out both to a depth of 0.5 m below the natural surface and 1.5 m below the top of the Selected Material Zone.

Holes remaining after trees and stumps have been grubbed must be backfilled promptly with sound material to prevent the infiltration and ponding of water. The backfilling material must be compacted to at least the relative compaction of the material existing in the adjacent ground. In the area defined in Clause 2.2, the final 50 mm of backfilling must be topsoil and the area must be vegetated within 7 days of removal of stump. Topsoil and vegetation must comply with Specification RMS R178.
4 PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF MULCH

4.1 MULCH

Native trees removed during clearing and grubbing may be used in conjunction with soil erosion and sediment control measures. All other native trees removed must be converted to mulch and stockpiled for use during landscape planting under the Contract. This requirement is subject to the following constraints:

(a) Where the native vegetation on Site is insufficient to provide the quantities of mulch needed during landscape planting, all native trees removed during clearing and grubbing must be mulched and stockpiled. Under no circumstances must the extent of clearing and grubbing be extended or weeds or exotic species used to make up any shortfall of mulch;

(b) Where the quantity of mulch produced exceeds the quantity required under the Contract, the excess mulch will become your property and must be removed from the Site.

Alternatively, you may propose to reuse or dispose of timber for other purposes by preparing a Timber Reuse and Disposal Plan. The proposal must detail the reuse and/or disposal options and the benefits of these options to the Principal over the reuse of timber as mulch. Include the Plan in the CEMP if the proposal is accepted.

4.2 MULCH STOCKPILES

All stockpiles must be on the site of the Works as described elsewhere in the documents. If you intend to use any stockpile site not shown on the Drawings, submit your application to the Principal at least ten working days before stockpiling is due to commence. State in your application the maximum dimensions of the proposed stockpile.

Stockpile sites must be located away from drainage lines and watercourses and must be arranged to minimise damage to natural vegetation and trees. The stockpile sites must be positioned so that the stockpiled material may be transported away at any time. Any clearing and grubbing required for these sites must be carried out in accordance with this Specification. Temporary erosion and sediment control measures must be taken in accordance with RMS G38.

Restoration of stockpile sites following completion of the work must be carried out in accordance with RMS R178.

Stockpiles must be monitored and turned over as required to avoid spontaneous combustion.

Mulch in excess of the quantity required for landscape planting must not be stockpiled on site.

5 DISPOSAL OF MATERIALS

Unless otherwise specified, all materials cleared, pruned and grubbed in accordance with this Specification shall become your property and must be removed from the site for recycling or disposal. Disposal must be in accordance with your Waste Management Plan.

Disposal of timber and other combustible materials by burning must comply with the requirements of Specification RMS G36.
ANNEXURE G40/A – PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

A1 CLEARS FOR BRIDGEWORKS

The area to be cleared for bridgeworks is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bridge</th>
<th>Distance (Metres) To Be Cleared Beyond:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abutment A</td>
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</table>
ANNEXURE G40/B – MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT

Payment will be made for all costs associated with completing the work detailed in this Specification in accordance with the following Pay Items.

Where no specific pay items are provided for a particular item of work, the costs associated with that item of work are deemed to be included in the rates and prices generally for the Work Under the Contract.

Unless otherwise specified, lump sum price for any of these items will not be accepted.

Pay Item G40P1 – Clearing and Grubbing

This is a lump sum item.

Payment must include the cost of weed removal, disposal of timber and other cleared materials, making good damage, backfilling, compacting, topsoiling and vegetating holes remaining after removal of stumps.

Pay Item G40P2 – Production and Stockpiling of Mulch

The unit of measurement must be the cubic metre measured in the stockpile of mulch produced, stockpiled on site and maintained in accordance with Clause 4.

The volume must be determined by measurement or survey and calculation. The measurement may be made immediately after completion of the stockpile.

Add any Project Specific Pay Items e.g. for stockpiling tree trunks.
ANNEXURE G40/C – SCHEDULES OF HOLD POINTS AND IDENTIFIED RECORDS

Refer to Clause 1.2.3.

C1 SCHEDULE OF HOLD POINTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clause</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>Written notification of intention to clear any area.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

C2 SCHEDULE OF IDENTIFIED RECORDS

The records listed below are Identified Records for the purposes of RMS Q Annexure Q/E.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clause</th>
<th>Description of Identified Record</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Report on the presence of weeds and unsound trees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNEXURE G40/D – PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Provide a Clearing and Grubbing Plan which must include, but not be limited to, the following information:

(a) methods used to identify and mark areas of weeds to be removed and methods for their removal (Clause 2.4);
(b) procedure for the disposal of weeds and exotics (Clause 2.4);
(c) procedure for protecting threatened flora species and trees marked for preservation (Clause 2.4);
(d) methods used for identifying, marking and removing or pruning unsound trees likely to fall upon the roadway or onto private property (Clause 2.4); and
(e) procedure for identifying and removing trees, stumps and logs above the specified size and within the hazard line (Clause 2.2).

Include in the Waste Management Plan (refer to RMS G36) procedures for the disposal of weeds and exotics and for the recycling and disposal of all other materials from clearing and grubbing operations.

The Clearing and Grubbing Plan and the Waste Management Plan must be consistent with the requirements of the other RMS specifications and must supplement your Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) as set out in RMS G36.

ANNEXURES G40/E TO G40/L – (NOT USED)

ANNEXURE G40/M – REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

Refer to Clause 1.2.5.

RMS Specifications

<table>
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<th>RMS Specification</th>
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<tr>
<td>RMS G36</td>
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<td>RMS G38</td>
<td>Soil and Water Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>RMS Q</td>
<td>Quality Management System</td>
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<tr>
<td>RMS R178</td>
<td>Vegetation</td>
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<td>RMS R201</td>
<td>Fencing</td>
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Australian Standards

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Australian Standard</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
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<td>AS 4373</td>
<td>Pruning of Amenity Trees</td>
</tr>
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