

## WISCONSIN CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION

### 16. STREAM CLEARING AND SNAGGING

#### 1. SCOPE

The work shall consist of the clearing of trees and brush from the flow area of a natural or excavated channel. It also consists of snagging (the selective removal) of obstructions from the channel and streambanks to increase its capacity to carry water.

#### 2. MARKING

The limits of the areas to be cleared and/or snagged will be marked by means of stakes, flags, tree markings, or other suitable methods. Trees to be left standing and uninjured will be designated by special markings placed on the trunks at a height of about 6 feet above the ground surface. Snags to be left in place or adjusted shall be marked or flagged.

#### 3. CLEARING

All trees, brush, shrubs, stumps, and other woody growth to be cut shall be cut off as close to the ground as the cutting tools permit, unless a maximum distance above the ground level is specified in the construction plan. Clearing may also be accomplished by pulling, grubbing, or other approved methods. Grubbing shall consist of the removal of stumps and roots of 1 inch in diameter or larger to a minimum depth of 1 foot unless otherwise specified in the construction plan.

Trees shall be felled in such a manner as to avoid damage to other trees, property, and objects outside the limits of clearing.

If herbicide treatment of the area to be cleared is planned, the herbicide must be an approved product for this use. The product must be in conformance to all laws, regulations, and rules of federal, state, and local agencies. Application must be in strict conformance to the label instructions of the manufacturer or in accordance to more restrictive orders that may be in effect.

#### 4. SNAGGING

Only designated down trees, logs, drifts, boulders, debris, and other obstructions lying wholly or partly in the channel shall be removed. Piling, piers, headwalls, and sediment bars that obstruct the free flow of water shall be removed if so designated in the construction plan.

The use of explosives shall be in strict compliance with applicable state statutes and regulations.

## 5. DISPOSAL

All materials cleared, grubbed, or snagged from the designated areas shall be buried or burned at approved locations or otherwise removed from the site. Buried materials shall be covered with a minimum of 2 feet of earthfill including any topsoil added for seeding purposes. Piling materials within the flood plain is not authorized unless it is approved for placement at a specific location.

Burning can be done only if authorized and a burning permit has been granted. Burning shall be performed outside the channel. Residue from burning and noncombustible material shall be buried outside the channel or placed in designated disposal area(s).

## 6. SITE EROSION CONTROL

Stream clearing and snagging shall be performed in a manner and with equipment that will minimize site erosion, the production of sediment, and the disturbance of water and other resources. Protective measures shall include but are not limited to diversions, waterways, seeding, mulching, mulch blankets, sediment basins, and silt fences. The Contractor is responsible for presenting an erosion control plan for approval prior to the start of construction.