Chapter 2  

National Standard Construction Specifications 

Instructions for use 
Construction Specification 1—Clearing 

1. Applicability
Construction Specification 1 is applicable to the clearing of vegetation at construction sites where grubbing is not required.

2. Material specifications
No material specifications complement Construction Specification 1.

3. Included items
Items to be included in contract specifications and drawings follow:

a. When the area(s) to be cleared is definable on the project layout map or other construction plan view drawing, the limits of each class (A, B, or C as defined in Section 2 Classification) of clearing must be shown and clearly defined.

b. When the area(s) to be cleared is not definable on the drawings (which may occur for many channel improvement projects), the extent of each class of clearing required must be described by notes and by designation of right-of-way boundaries and station limits. The full extent of work to be performed must be clearly defined.

c. When replacement plants are required because of damage caused by the contractor, the specific size, number, and species needs to be specified in section 8. Example: "Any tree removed that was designated to remain or is irreparably damaged shall be replaced with two 15-gallon valley oak (Quercus lobata) as directed by the contracting officer."

d. When measurement and payment are identified to be in accordance with method 2, section 7, the survey line(s) along which the length of cleared area(s) is to be measured must be designated. The lateral extent and station reaches of the area(s) to be cleared must be clearly defined.

e. Areas in which disposal of refuse/waste material is not allowed or areas where disposal is restricted or limited must be clearly defined or shown on the drawings.

f. Required minimum depth of earth cover over buried materials, if applicable.

g. Required surface grading over buried materials, if applicable. Existing natural flow patterns onto or from the construction site onto other properties must be a consideration in the final grading.

h. Restrictions on the use of explosives, if any.

i. Restrictions on the burning of combustible materials as a disposal procedure, if any.

j. Special requirements to control erosion, water pollution, and air pollution, if applicable. Requirements of this specification must be compatible with any and all requirements outlined in Construction Specification 5, Pollution Control, when included as part of the contract.

k. Method(s) of measurement and payment if the standard specification includes more than one method.

4. Methods
Section 7, Measurement and payment

Methods 1 and 3—Intended for use when the area(s) to be cleared is extensive and can be defined in area units on the ground and clearly shown on the drawing(s). Section 8 should specify horizontal or surface measurements to be used to determine area cleared. A reservoir project is a good example of this type of site.

Method 2—Intended for use when the area(s) to be cleared is long and narrow, and cannot be clearly defined on the drawings. Section 8 should specify horizontal or surface measurements to be used to determine area cleared. A channel right-of-way is a typical example of this type of site.
Method 4—Intended for use when the area(s) to be cleared cannot be measured practically and when it is reasonable to expect that variations in the quantity of clearing to be performed will be minor. For method 4, the procedures that will be used to determine the amount of work satisfactorily completed for progress payment need to be identified in section 8. Options may include:

- An onsite agreed-to estimate of the percent of work satisfactorily completed at time of progress payment cutoff.
- Require the contractor to provide measurements of all areas and those that have been satisfactorily cleared, and use a percentage of the total item.
- Other suitable and fair methods, one of which could be related to the construction schedule.

When all but one method is deleted for use in a contract specification, delete from the last paragraph All Methods—The following provisions apply to all methods of measurement and payment. Left justify the remaining text.

5. Items of work and construction details
Starting at the top of page 1–2, prepare and outline job specific "Items of Work and Construction Details" (IWCD) in accordance with these instructions.