SECTION 719 - LANDSCAPE WORKS - NATIVE VEGETATION RE-ESTABLISHMENT

##This section cross-references Sections 160, 176, 201, 204 and R76 Roadside Maintenance.

If any of the above sections are relevant, they should be included in the specification.

If any of the above sections are not included in the specification, all references to those sections should be struck out, ensuring that the remaining text is still coherent:

**719.00 GENERAL**

This section covers the requirements for works associated with the re-establishment of native vegetation of the site. This includes, but is not limited to, material supply, site preparation, mulching, planting, irrigation and landscape maintenance.

**719.01 DEFINITIONS**

(a) Caliper

The stem or trunk diameter of a tree at a nominated point. Caliper is measured at 300 mm above ground for sizing of nursery plants.

(b) Independent Expert

A expert independent of the contractor suitably qualified in environmental, agricultural or soil science, land rehabilitation or landscape architecture.

(c) Indigenous Plant

A species listed on the planting schedule that is likely to have existed pre 1750 no more than 10 km from the site.

(d) Individual Tree Planting

Any tree planting of single trees each surrounded by a mulch ring.

(e) Planting Area

Any continuous area where multiple plants are established using stock from containers such as pots, tubes and cells or by direct sowing (other than seeded areas).

(f) Propagule

A propagule is any plant part capable of producing a new plant (e.g. seeds, cuttings, bulbs, corms, rhizomes, etc).

(g) Topsoil

The weathered surface layer of soils that includes organic matter.

(h) Weed

Any plant which is not desired as follows:

(i) Declared weed. Any plant that is a declared weed under as defined in the *Weed Management Act 1999*.

(ii) Species or individual plants specified to be removed.

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(iii) Weeds of planting beds and around individual trees include any plant not specified in the planting schedule or is not indigenous to the site. This includes all local environmental weeds and declared weeds.

(iv) Regionally declared environmental weeds of grassed areas include all species listed in (i) above, broadleaf species (except broadleaf species specified for sowing) and other weeds where specifically listed.

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719.02 SURVEILLANCE, RECORDS AND REPORTING

The Contractor must engage an independent expert to undertake surveillance and auditing of the landscaping and plant maintenance works. The Contractor will prepare a schedule for the independent expert to inspect and audit that will ensure compliance with this specification in accordance with the landscaping and plant maintenance timeframes.

The specified inspections, samples, records and certificates shall be made available or submitted to the Superintendent for acceptance prior to the commencement of associated work. Accepted samples shall become the agreed minimum standard and approved source of supply. The Contractor provide at least 2 working days notice to the Superintendent for all inspections and review of samples required in accordance with the independent expert schedule. Samples, records and certificates shall be provided to the Superintendent at least 10 working days prior to bulk delivery.

**\*\*\*** **The Contractor shall provide the following before commencement of the relevant landscape work:** ##[strikethrough inapplicable items below]:

(a) Inspections

• plant stock for all plant species

(b) Records

• evidence of origin of indigenous provenance plant material

• analysis certificates for Ryecorn grass seed

• details of suppliers

• tests on compost

• copies of fertiliser labels.

**719.03 CLEARING AND GRUBBING**

Further to Section 201, to minimise the risk of weed spread, clearing and grubbing is to be staged with reference to the Weed and Hygiene Management Plan.

**719.04 SUPPLY OF MATERIALS**

(a) Site Topsoil

Only site topsoil shall be used. Topsoil stripping and handling shall be conducted in a manner to maintain the integrity of the soil. Strip topsoils in phases to minimise the risk of weed dispersal.

Topsoil that has been designated as contaminated with exotic vegetation species is to be deep buried into non-structural fill batter elements within the project footprint with a minimum 300 mm cover of clean material.

Topsoils generated from stripping are to be windrowed locally (where practicable and space allows) for later re-use in site rehabilitation.

The topsoil stockpile should be placed immediately inside the vegetation stockpile (with the latter acting as a sediment filter for material moving from the topsoil stockpile). If local stockpiling is not practicable, the material is to be stockpiled as near as possible to its origin.

Topsoil stockpiles to be kept below 2 m in height and less than 4 m wide wherever practicable (to maximise aerobic soil conditions and retain biological activity for more successful rehabilitation).

Ensure the placement of topsoil stockpiles does not result in ponding against stockpiles or soil saturation and that frequent drainage gaps are placed within linear windrows to prevent excessive channelling of stormwater flows which may cause erosion.

(b) Soil Testing

Soil testing is to be undertaken to establish what soil amendments and macro and micro nutrients are required to be added to the topsoil to support normal healthy plant growth.

The Contractor shall have sampling, assessment and interpretation of soil test results carried out by a Certified Professional Soil Scientist (CPSS), or soil scientist or agronomist with qualifications relating to soil science, and at least ten years relevant experience in soil assessment and management.

(c) Habitat Recreation (further to section 201 and 204)

Where trees, tree limbs and foliage are to be include in habitat creation, material with stems greater than 100 mm diameter (i.e. trunks, large branches and large root structures) is to be temporarily stockpiled for later use in habitat creation in designated areas.

All non-native species material is to be entirely removed from site.

Material for re-use is to consist of the full range of available material size and type (i.e. large trunks, intermediate limb wood as well as finer brush/leaves etc.).

Large material with hollows is to be re-used as a priority above other material.

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(d) Indigenous Plant Stock

The Contractor shall source seed or other propagules for indigenous plant stock from within or as close to the site as practicable and from areas with similar soil type (same parent material) and rainfall (to minus 100 mm ARI). Seed shall be collected in accordance with *Florabank Guidelines and Codes of Practice* (<http://www.florabank.org.au/>) and shall not be collected more than 25 km from the site. Grasses and wetland species may be sourced up to 50 km from the site in areas with the same soil type and similar or lower annual rainfall. Where a distinct form of a species occurs naturally in the local area, that form shall be used.

The Contractor shall submit documentation of origin of indigenous provenance plant material which shall include the following details for each seed lot:

• species name

• storage code

• collection locality - Latitude/longitude

• approximate number of parent plants sampled

• approximate number of plants in that local population.

All seed lots of the same species collected at different localities shall be supplied as separate seed lots. The provenance shall be tracked through propagation to planting for possible future seed collection purposes.

The format of the seed collection records shall be a spreadsheet compatible with Microsoft Excel.

(e) Pesticides

Herbicides applied as a spray shall include sufficient coloured dye to identify application areas for at least 5 days.

(f) Compost

Compost may be included as an ameliorant in the event where site topsoil is deemed by soil testing results to be unlikely to provide an adequate growth medium to meet the plant growth targets of 720. 10 and 720.11 or is deemed likely to slump on surfaces greater than 1V:3H.

Compost shall be tested in accordance with AS4454 - 2012.

Compost shall be applied at a minimum depth of 50 mm.

(g) Fertilisers

Unless otherwise specified fertiliser shall be NPK 8:4:10.

Fertilisers for planting areas and advanced trees shall be slow release with a 9‑12 month release period and suitable for the establishment of plant types, sizes and species specified in the plant schedule(s).

(h) Gypsum

Only manufactured gypsum (Calcium Sulphate) shall be used with gypsum derived from recycled plaster board not be used. Sodium shall not exceed 1% by mass.

(i) Wood Mulch (Chipped or Shredded)

All wood mulch shall be supplied, delivered, handled and applied in accordance with AS 4454.

(i) Imported Wood Mulch

Wood mulch shall comply with the properties described in Table 719.041:

Table 719.041 Shredded or Chipped Wood Mulch General Supply Properties

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Property** | **Requirement** |
| General Requirements | Mulch shall meet AS 4454, Table 3.1 for composted or pasteurised mulch. Mulch type shall have fibrous properties which 'interlock' the particles so that installed mulch is not blown away by wind. |
| Purity | Mulch shall be made from endemic native vegetation and shall be free of soil and weeds, plant pathogens, vermin and toxins. Mulch shall be free of treated pine, exposed sharp metal, plastic and other litter. |
| Sizing | In planting areas adjacent to either roads posted at <80 km/h, pedestrian or cycle paths or recreational open space, 95% of particle size shall be no wider than 40 mm and no longer than 140 mm. No particles longer than 200 mm.  In planting areas adjacent to roads posted at ≥80 km/h, 80% of particle size shall be no wider than 50 mm and no longer than 140 mm. No particles longer than 400 mm. |

(ii) Site Mulch

Site mulch available from the chipping of on-site indigenous or non-weed vegetation shall be used where possible. Any species that could have weed potential by seed or vegetative fragments shall not be recycled in the landscape works. Mulch shall satisfy the purity and sizing requirements shown in Table 719.041.

(j) Tree Guards, Stakes and Marker Stakes

Tree guards shall be either opaque plastic and of sufficient gauge and UV inhibitor to ensure a minimum two year life or minimum 2 litre cartons of sufficient construction to ensure a minimum 18 month life. Tree guard stakes and marker stakes shall be sufficiently robust to be driven into the ground, securely support the tree guards and ensure a minimum two year life.

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(k) Weed Control Mat and Erosion Control Mat

The Contractor shall supply and install jute or approved equivalent, biodegradable, fire retardant weed and erosion control mat as indicated on the Drawings or as specified. Weed Control Mat shall be minimum 700 grams per square metre and Erosion Control Mat shall be 300 grams per square metre. The surface of the mat shall permit water infiltration.

(l) Cover-crop seed

Rye-corn (*Secale cereale*) seed shall be used as a cover-crop to stabilise areas to be subsequently sown or planted and for the stabilisation of temporary batters and stockpiles.

The quality and specified properties of all seed shall be analysed and certified by either a NATA (National Association of Testing Authorities) or ISTA (International Seed Testing Authority) laboratory. Labelling of all seed shall comply with the Australian Seed Federation *National Code of Practice for Seed Labelling and Marketing*.

**719.05 PEST AND WEED CONTROL**

(a) Pest and Weed Management Procedures

The Contractor shall develop and implement site specific pest and weed management procedures to control pest and weed populations. The procedures shall consider pest animals, plants, fungi and other pathogens that may impede plant establishment.

Weed management procedures shall include removal of weeds from their existing locations before, during and after site clearing, topsoil stripping and landscape works. Weed management procedures shall minimise the spread of weeds in topsoil to other locations within and outside the site.

In addition to Sections 204 and ##176: pest and weed management procedures shall include control of soil borne pathogens including, but not limited to Phytophthora cinnamomi, Armillaria sp. and soil borne weeds.

(b) General Requirements

Pesticides shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions. Where off‑label use of pesticides is considered desirable to achieve pest control requirements, the Contractor shall be responsible for the investigation and procurement of off-label permits. The Contractor shall advise the Superintendent of any proposed off‑label pesticide use prior to pesticide application.

Weed and pest control personnel shall be qualified and experienced in the use of pesticides, control of weeds, prevention of pesticide drift and identification of target and non target species found on site and included in the planting schedules.

The Contractor shall prevent runoff into waterways of pesticides not registered for use in waterways.

If ‘non‑target’ areas or plants are damaged during weed control works, then the Contractor shall be responsible for the reinstatement of those areas to the satisfaction of the Superintendent.

(c) Pre-Planting Weed Control

Pre-planting weed control shall be undertaken to ensure that planting areas and new grassed areas are free of visible weeds prior to the commencement of planting and grassing. Weed control shall be programmed and implemented to deplete the potential weed seed bank within the topsoil to be used in planting beds.

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**719.06 SITE PREPARATION**

All surfaces are to be sufficiently roughened to ensure that the top soil will key in and will not slump.

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Further to the requirements of Section 204, the Contractor shall provide the soil preparation described in Table 719.061. All elements of soil preparation proceed in order from left to right.

Table 719.061 - Soil Preparation Requirements

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Situation** | **Initial Ripping of Subsoil Prior to Topsoil Placement** | **Minimum Topsoil Depth** | **Cross Ripping** | **Cultivation** |
| Disturbed areas | Min 200 mm deep, 500 mm max spacing | 75 mm, except 100 mm in swales | Min 100 mm deep, 500 mm max spacing | - |
| Planting Areas in disturbed areas flatter than 3h:1v | Min 400 mm deep at max 500 mm spacing. Leave all batters with roughened subsoil to assist with keying of topsoil. | 150 mm | - | Min 150 mm deep |
| Planting Areas in disturbed areas steeper than 3h:1v | Min 300 mm deep at max 500 mm spacing, parallel to the contour. Leave all batters with roughened subsoil to assist with keying of topsoil. | 100 mm | - | - |
| Planting Areas in undisturbed areas | Min 400 mm deep at max 500 mm spacing | - | - | Min 150 mm deep |
| Individual Tree Planting (including advanced trees) within seeded areas.  The area of treatment is 25 m2 per tree. | Min 400 mm deep at 500 mm max spacing | 150 mm in disturbed seeded areas | Min 300 mm deep, max 500 mm spacing | - |
| **Notes:**  • Disturbed areas include any area of cut batter, fill batter, site of excavation (including borrow pit), site of dumping (including fill mound), drains, swales or area driven over by machinery resulting in soil compaction.  • Undisturbed areas are those areas with the pre-construction soil profile retained intact, without compaction or soil loss.  • Initial ripping of soils should be parallel to the contour. | | | | |

(a) Soil Additives including Gypsum

Soil additives, including any material used to modify the chemical properties of the soil, shall be applied prior to placement of topsoil in accordance with results and recommendations from site soil analysis tests.

The Contractor shall supply and install gypsum to the subsoil where subsoils are dispersive (AS 4419 5.11) to ensure soils are not dispersive, incorporating gypsum during ripping to a minimum depth of 300 mm.

The Contractor shall adjust the soil pH if the soil, including subsoil, to a depth of 300 mm is not in the range of 5-8.

(b) Topsoil Placement.

Utilise locally stripped topsoils only.

Topsoil depth should be increased to a minimum of 150mm where sufficient material is available.

Topsoil from stock-piles should be harvested vertically, not horizontally, to ensure correct mixing.

When moving topsoil, it must be excavated and carted and must not be dragged across the ground, ie bulldozers or graders must not be used for topsoil movement.

Leave all topsoil placements in a loose, friable condition. DO NOT compact topsoils with rollers, track rolling or patting with the back of excavator buckets.

(c) Fertiliser Application

The fertiliser is to be applied to all disturbed surfaces in accordance with results and recommendations from site soil analysis tests.

Application of fertiliser can be by hand or included in the hydro-seeding mixture.

Hydro-seeding equipment must be thoroughly rinsed prior to treatments to remove all traces of seed.

(d) Stripped Vegetation Placement for Rehabilitation of Disturbed Surfaces

Utilise the locally cleared vegetation only (<100 mm diameter).

Move and place vegetation with an excavator mounted with a grab or bucket and thumb, to minimise disturbance of the topsoil.

Placed vegetation on steep surfaces, such as batter and embankments, is to be firmed into the topsoil with the teeth of a rock bucket to ensure appropriate keying in.

The vegetation is to be placed at a thickness and density sufficient to provide physical protection from raindrop impact but not so thickly that it acts as a mulch which will suppress plant germination.

(e) Timing

Correct seasonal timing of rehabilitation and related activities is essential to success and shall be in accordance with Table 719.062.

Table 719.062- Timing of rehabilitation steps.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Step** | **Step Description** | **Timing** |
| 1 | Topsoil placement | Topsoil shall be re spread as soon as practicable, in accordance with clause 204.05 |
| 2 | Seed and/or fertiliser application (if required) | As soon as practicable after topsoil placement, and immediately prior to step 3 |
| 3 | Cleared vegetation placement | As soon as practicable after topsoil placement or step 2 |

***HP The Contractor shall make available each ripped, topsoiled and cultivated planting area, individual tree planting and grassing area for inspection by the Superintendent and Independent Expert prior to mulching, planting or grassing.***

**719.07 PLANTING**

(a) Preparation

The Contractor shall carry out planting so as to ensure healthy, vigorous growth of plants. In the event the specified plant is unlikely to be suited to the as‑constructed growing conditions, the Superintendent shall be notified.

Holes in heavy soils or on batters shall be prepared so as to ensure adequate drainage.

Holes shall not be left smooth sided in basalt or ‘plastic’ soils. Holes shall not be left smooth sided in basalt or ‘plastic’ soils.

Planting holes shall be backfilled with friable topsoil free of debris, rocks and clods greater than 50 mm in diameter.

(b) Fertilising

The Contractor shall fertilise advanced trees and, where specified and/or identified by the Contractor’s soil analyses, other planting areas with fertiliser in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations.

(c) Initial Watering

The Contractor shall saturate each plant within 8 hours after planting. Cells and tubes shall be irrigated with a minimum 3 litres of water per plant. Other container sizes shall be irrigated with a volume of water greater than the container size.

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719.08 MULCHING

(a) Wood Mulch (Shredded or Chipped)

The Contractor shall install wood mulch to all Planting Areas unless otherwise specified. Mulch shall extend at least 1 metre beyond plant centres at the outer edges of all Planting Areas.

The Contractor shall install 2 metre diameter mulch rings around all Individual Tree Plantings.

Mulch depths in all situations shall be a minimum 125 mm and maximum 175 mm.

Mulch shall be raked to an even, neat appearance and kept clear of plant stems to avoid collar rot.

**719.09 SEEDING**

(a) Seed Application

Seeding with a covercrop of Ryecorn, Secale cereale is required for all disturbed areas, unless when specified as not be applied in the landscape plan.

Ryecorn is to be applied at a rate of 15-20kg/ha (approx. 1.5-2.0gm/m2).

Where specified in the landscape plan a local provenance seed mixture should be applied in addition to the cover-crop.

Seed may be applied by direct drilling, hand seeding or hydro-seeding. Where hydro-seeding is used cellulose fibre is to be applied at a rate of 200kg/ha (20gm/m2)

Germination rate shall be minimum 80% cover within 8 weeks and 95% cover within 3 months of sowing. If germination has not been achieved within 8 weeks, then the area(s) shall be reseeded with the specified seed mix.

(b) First Slash

The Contractor shall carry out the slash when at least 50% of the cover cropped area has grown to minimum 75 mm and maximum 150 mm height. Slash to a minimum height of 75 mm. Less than 1/3 the height of the cover crop shall be removed in the first cut.

**719.10 LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE**

(a) Scope of Maintenance

The Contractor shall provide a Landscape Maintenance Plan detailing the activities required to maintain the Plant Performance Requirements, with provision for future maintenance activities.

The Contractor shall implement the Landscape Management Plan and the requirements of this specification throughout the contract period.

**\*\*\*** Maintenance of the landscape work shall include the following tasks:

(i) replanting

(ii) weed control

(iii) watering

(iv) slashing

(v) reseeding of seeded areas

(vi) pest and disease control

(vii) re‑mulching

(viii) pruning

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(ix) maintaining the site in a neat and tidy condition

(x) repair and removal of tree guards and stakes

(xi) repairs to erosion affected areas

(xii) stockpile areas.

(b) Maintenance Program and Joint Inspections

\*\*\* The Contractor shall prepare and submit a maintenance program showing sufficient information to enable the landscape maintenance works to be evaluated and shall show as a minimum the following:

• inspection visits during the period of maintenance;

• maintenance works during the period of maintenance including an outline of replacement planting regime and proposed pest and weed management activities.

Quarterly joint inspections shall be undertaken each year by the Contractor and the Superintendent after commencement of the Defects Liability Period.

Any remedial work shall be performed within three weeks of the date of inspection. Grassing and planting may be delayed until suitable conditions prevail subject to independent expert advice and the approval of the Superintendent.

(c) Plant Performance Requirements

Shrub and groundcover planting bed areas shall achieve the following performance requirements:

\*\*\* Table 719.101 Performance Requirements for Shrub and Groundcover Planting Areas

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **12 months after Practical Completion** | **24 months after Practical Completion** |
| • minimum ##:25% ground closure | • minimum ##:60% ground closure |
| • all plants showing healthy growth | • all plants showing healthy growth |
| • performance indicating probable ##:90% ground closure at 36 months after Practical Completion | • performance indicating probable ##:90% ground closure at 36 months after Practical Completion |

Planting that does not meet the above performance requirements shall be re-mulched and replanted annually to 100% of the original planting density for the area of planting area gaps.

Tree planting areas shall achieve the following performance requirements:

Table 719.102 Performance Requirements for Tree Planting

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Previous 12 months rainfall** | **Minimum Growth Rate**  **Tubes/Cells** | **Minimum Growth Rate**  **Advanced Trees** |
| More than 700 mm | 750 mm per annum | 300 mm per annum |
| 500 – 700 mm | 500 mm per annum | 200 mm per annum |
| Less than 500 mm | 400 mm per annum | 100 mm per annum |

Tree planting that does not meet the above performance requirements shall be replaced annually to achieve 100% of the original specified planting numbers.

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Where planting does not meet the performance requirements because of soil conditions, the site shall be re-prepared and replanted at the Contractor’s expense.

(d) Maintenance Tasks

The Contractor shall maintain the works as follows in accordance with the requirements of this specification, the drawings and plant schedules.

(i) Declared Weeds and Weeds to be Removed

Eradication of declared weeds and weeds to be removed over the whole site shall commence from the date of Possession of Site. The weed eradication targets shall be achieved within six months of Possession of Site and then shall be maintained.

**\*\*\*** The Contractor shall eradicate:

• all state prohibited weeds

• all regionally prohibited weeds

• all regionally controlled weeds

• the following Weeds of National Significance (WONS):

- ## (specify):

• the following priority weeds identified in the local Catchment Management Authority Weed Action Plan:

- ## (specify):

(ii) Weed Control in Planting Areas and Individual Tree Plantings

Weeds within planting areas and around tree plantings are to be managed from when cultivation of the planting site is complete.

All planting areas shall be managed by the Contractor to maintain a minimum of 90% weed free surface with no weeds taller or broader than 200 mm at all times and all weeds are to be removed prior to the production of viable seed. Weeds within Individual Tree Plantings are to be managed for a radius of not less than 1.5 metres at each planting location.

(iii) Pest Animals and Diseases

The control of pests and diseases shall begin before the first planting. The Contractor shall maintain all plants free of insect infestation and plant disease so that healthy, vigorous plant growth is sustained. Minor infestations of native pests and diseases on indigenous plants not threatening survival or healthy growth need not be controlled.

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The Contractor shall provide protection to plants from vertebrate grazing animals. All planting killed by grazing animals shall be replaced. If more than 5% of planting in a planting area shows signs of damage by grazing animals, the Contractor shall take immediate action to prevent further grazing damage. As a minimum the Contractor shall immediately install tree guards or suitable protective fencing securely around all plants subject to vertebrate grazing.

Where chemical repellents are to be used to prevent grazing, the repellent shall be applied until the growing tip of the plant is beyond the grazing height of the pest animal.

(iv) Replanting

Maintenance for replanting shall begin as soon as planting has begun in a planting area.

Plants which die or do not achieve the specified growth performance shall be replaced and replanted.

The Contractor shall program and allow for the propagation and supply of plants for any replanting during the current or next available planting season. A full pass of replanting shall occur at least once in each year of the Defects Liability Period. Replanting shall be undertaken either in Autumn during the months of April or May or Spring during the months of September or October. Replanting outside of these times can be undertaken subject to independent expert.

(v) Watering

The Contractor shall water all plants as necessary to ensure continued healthy and vigorous growth from time of planting.

(vi) Cover crop slashing ##(specification writer to strikethrough one of the following and delete this comment):

**\*\*\*** Slashing of all cover crop areas shall commence from Possession of Site.

**\*\*\*** Slashing of all cover crop areas shall commence from the earlier of sowing or road opening to traffic.

(vii) Re‑mulching

Maintenance of areas mulched shall begin from the first planting.

Areas mulched with shredded wood mulch that do not have full foliage cover at ground level shall be maintained at a minimum consolidated depth of 75 mm by the Contractor. Re‑mulching is not required where shrub or groundcover canopies have fully connected foliage.

(viii) Pruning

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Pruning maintenance shall begin from the first planting.

The Contractor shall prune trees and shrubs to remove damaged limbs and branches with a diameter above 10 mm. Tree branches likely to form a dominant ‘U’ or ‘V’ shaped crotch shall be pruned to a single leader. All pruning and removal of living or dead stems greater than 10 mm diameter shall be in accordance with AS 4373 Pruning of Amenity Trees.

(ix) Maintaining the Site in a Neat and Tidy Condition

At any time the site is accessible to the public, the Contractor shall keep the site in a neat and tidy condition free of litter, debris or extraneous materials not associated with the works. Litter that may be carried from the site by wind or water shall be controlled, collected and removed by the Contractor from Possession of Site.

(x) Maintenance of Tree Guards and Stakes

Maintenance of tree guards and stakes shall begin from installation.

Tree guards shall be maintained by the Contractor to ensure healthy vigorous plant growth is not inhibited. Tree guards shall be removed when the plant reaches 750‑1000 mm in height. Tree guards shall be removed prior to Final Completion of the Contract unless otherwise directed by the Superintendent.

Marker stakes shall be removed when the plant reaches the height of the stake.

(xi) Repairs to Erosion Treated and Affected Areas

Maintenance and repairs to erosion treated and affected areas shall begin from the earlier of installation of treatment or erosion occurring.

The Contractor shall maintain all areas of erosion protection treatments from the earlier of installation of treatment or erosion occurring and shall repair all damage or erosion which arises. Such areas shall be re‑prepared and re‑protected as necessary to minimize erosion occurring and to establish a stable condition.

(xii) Intervention Standards

**\*\*\*** In addition to the above requirements, the Contractor shall maintain the landscaping works in accordance with the Intervention and Rectification Standards specified in R76 Roadside Maintenance for:

• Surface Drains and Verges

• Weed Control

• Tree and Shrub Management

• Declared Weed Control

• Litter Control.

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