

# TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL

## DEVELOPMENT CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION

C212

# CLEARING AND GRUBBING

VERSION 1.2

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**SPECIFICATION C212 – CLEARING AND GRUBBING**

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**CITATION**

This document is named "Tweed Shire Council, Development Construction Specification C212 - Clearing and grubbing".

**ORIGIN OF DOCUMENT, COPYRIGHT**

This document was originally based on AUS-SPEC - Development Construction Specification C212 - Clearing and Grubbing, April 2000 (Copyright SWR-TM). Substantial parts of the original AUS-SPEC document have been deleted and replaced in the production of this Tweed Shire Council Development Specification. The parts of the AUS-SPEC document that remain are still subject to the original copyright.

**VERSIONS, C212 CLEARING AND GRUBBING**

VERSION	AMENDMENT DETAILS	CLAUSES AMENDED	DATE ISSUED (The new version takes effect from this date)	Authorised by the Director of Engineering Services
1.1	Original Version		1 July 2003	
1.2	Replace all references to SWAC with "Certifying Engineer"	Various	5 February 2016	

**DEVELOPMENT CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION C212**

**CLEARING AND GRUBBING**

**C212.01 SCOPE**

1. This Specification is for the clearing of all vegetation, both living and dead, all minor man-made structures (such as fences and livestock yards), all rubbish and other materials which, in the opinion of the Certifying Engineer, are unsuitable for use in the Works, the chipping of the crowns of trees and the branches of shrubs, and the grubbing of trees and stumps from the area defined in Clause C212.02. The work also includes the disposal, in accordance with Clause C212.05 and C212.06, of all materials that have been cleared and grubbed. All natural landscape features, including natural rock outcrops, natural vegetation, soil and watercourses are to remain undisturbed except where affected by the approved Works. **Extent of Work**
2. In advance of or in conjunction with clearing and grubbing operations, effective erosion and sedimentation control measures shall be implemented in accordance with the Construction Specification C212 - CONTROL OF EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION. **Erosion Control**
3. Explosives shall not be permitted to be used in clearing, grubbing or other demolition activities without the prior written approval of the Certifying Engineer and Council.

**C212.02 LIMITS OF CLEARING**

1. Unless otherwise specified or directed, the area to be cleared is that required by site regrading works, including the area occupied by the completed road formation and associated drainage works and erosion and sedimentation measures, plus a clearance of 2m beyond tops of cuts and toes of embankments. The Subdivider shall ensure that only the absolute minimum area for construction is cleared. **Limits of Clearing**
2. Before clearing commences, the limits of clearing shall be marked by pegs placed by the Subdivider at 25m intervals, or at the Subdivider's discretion around the area to be cleared. **Indicator Pegs**

**C212.03 CLEARING OPERATIONS**

1. The area within the limits of clearing shall be cleared of all vegetation, both living and dead, all minor man-made structures (such as fences and livestock yards), all rubbish and other materials which, in the opinion of the Certifying Engineer, are unsuitable for use in the Works with the exception of certain trees marked for preservation. The Subdivider shall plan clearing operations such that wherever possible, clearing is carried out progressively and only the minimum area of land is left disturbed at any time. **Extent**
2. The Subdivider shall give the Certifying Engineer written notice of seven (7) days of the intention to clear any area of the work. The Certifying Engineer shall mark or indicate to the Subdivider the trees that shall be preserved. The Subdivider shall arrange for an inspection by the Certifying Engineer and shall obtain the Certifying Engineer's approval to proceed with clearing and grubbing. Trees that shall be preserved shall be protected during site works by the erection of solid barricades, as shown on the design plans and, generally at a distance of 4m from the trunk of the tree, unless otherwise authorised by the Certifying Engineer. **Trees to be preserved**
3. The Subdivider shall take all measures to prevent damage to existing underground and overhead utility services. **Utility Services**

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| 4.  | The erection of structures, excavation and filling, changes to soil profiles, stockpiling of spoil, storage of other materials and driving or parking of any vehicle or machinery within 4m of the trunks of trees to be retained shall not be permitted unless part of the Works as approved by the Certifying Engineer.   | <b><i>Disturbance<br/>Near Trees</i></b>            |
| 5.  | Damage to trees shall also include damage to bark and root systems. No tree roots are to be cut without the prior approval of the Certifying Engineer.  |   |
| 6.  | The Subdivider shall plan all operations to ensure that there is no damage to any trees outside the limits of clearing specified or directed by the Certifying Engineer. No growing trees shall be destroyed or damaged by the Subdivider other than those specified and those indicated by the Certifying Engineer.  | <b><i>Trees outside<br/>Limits of Work</i></b>      |
| 7.  | Any tree remaining within the road reserve but outside the limits of clearing which is, in the opinion of the Certifying Engineer, unsound and likely to fall upon the roadway shall be cleared and disposed of in accordance with Clause C212.05.  | <b><i>Unsound trees<br/>in Road<br/>Reserve</i></b> |
| 8.  | If directed by the Certifying Engineer, any branch, which overhangs the road formation, shall be cut back to within 0.5m of the tree trunk and disposed of in accordance with Clause C212.05.   | <b><i>Overhanging<br/>branches</i></b>              |
| 9.  | Every precaution shall be taken to prevent timber from falling on private property and the Subdivider shall dispose of any timber so fallen or produce the written consent of the owner to its remaining there. The cost of disposal of such fallen timber shall be borne by the Subdivider. Prior to entering private property, the Subdivider shall obtain consent from the Certifying Engineer and the property owner. | <b><i>Debris in<br/>Private<br/>Property</i></b>    |
| 10. | Damage of any kind, including damage to trees, fencing, occurring during clearing operations shall be made good by the Subdivider. The cost of making good such damage shall be borne by the Subdivider.  | <b><i>Damage to<br/>Property</i></b>                |

**C212.04 GRUBBING**

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| 1. | All trees and stumps, on or within the limits of clearing, unable to be felled and removed by the clearing methods used by the Subdivider shall be removed by grubbing.   | <b><i>Extent</i></b>         |
| 2. | Grubbing operations shall be carried out to a depth of 0.5m below the natural surface or 1.5m below the finished surface level, whichever is the lower.   | <b><i>Depth</i></b>          |
| 3. | Holes remaining after trees and stumps have been grubbed shall be backfilled promptly with sound material to prevent the infiltration and ponding of water. The backfilling material shall be compacted to at least the relative density of the material existing in the adjacent ground. | <b><i>Backfill Holes</i></b> |

**C212.05 CHIPPING OF CLEARED VEGETATION**

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|----|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | The Subdivider shall produce a wood-chip and mulch derived from crowns of trees, branches of shrubs cleared under this Specification. The wood-chip mulch produced shall be stockpiled for subsequent use in accordance with the Specification for LANDSCAPING or for use at other locations as appropriate. | <b><i>Wood-chip<br/>Mulch</i></b> |
| 2. | The wood-chip mulch shall be produced from branches having a maximum diameter of 100 millimetres and the chipped material produced shall not have two (2) orthogonal dimensions exceeding 75mm and 50mm.   | <b><i>Dimensions</i></b>          |

**C212.06 DISPOSAL OF MATERIALS**

1. Unless otherwise specified elsewhere, all materials cleared and grubbed in accordance with this Specification shall become the property of the Subdivider and shall be removed from the site and legally disposed of. **Removal from Site**
  
2. Unless otherwise approved by the Certifying Engineer in writing, disposal of timber and other combustible materials by burning shall not be permitted. Where the Subdivider obtains the prior written approval of the N.S.W Rural Fire Service, the Subdivider shall comply with all Statutory requirements applicable to burning off, and any such burning off shall be carried out in such a manner that no damage is done to any trees outside the limits of clearing. Smoke resulting from such burning off shall not cause a traffic hazard. **Burning not Permitted**