

SECTION 850

PROTECTION OF VEGETATION AND WETLANDS

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850.01 MAINTAIN NATURAL DRAINAGE PATTERN

Drainage is to be maintained in its natural state wherever possible, with provision being made for spring flooding. Where existing drainage patterns cannot be maintained, alternate drainage will be installed to approximate normal conditions with the approval of the Owner's representative.

850.02 PROTECTION OF TREES & SHRUBS

Some trees, shrubs and plants within the clearing limits may be required for use by the Owner or other groups. Where necessary, and as directed by the Owner's representative, such trees, shrubs and plants shall be flagged for removal. Also see Section 855.02 (Planting of Trees and Shrubs).

Where branches of trees are to be removed as a result of damage or where roots 2.5 cm in diameter or larger are exposed as a result of contractors excavation work, the stumps shall be cut cleanly using a saw or lopping tool. The roots shall be cut back level to the surface of the cut slope within 24 hours following their exposure.

The Contractor shall adhere to the following protection measures:

- a) No unnecessary cutting of trees is to be conducted. Care will be taken during construction to prevent damage to trees and shrubs adjacent to the flagged clearing limits which are to remain after construction.
- b) Care shall be taken when sloping embankments not to expose roots of trees, or put the soil at the base of such trees in danger of future erosion or extensive downslope drainage.
- c) The Contractor shall not use living trees as survey marks and shall not cut blazes or otherwise mark live trees except with removable surveyor's tape and/or tags.
- d) Where cutting is necessitated, the Contractor shall stockpile and remove all merchantable timber not required by the Owner. Other wood waste and slash

remaining near the uncut zone shall be disposed of by chipping, burning, or removal, as acceptable to the Owner's representative.

850.03 OFF RIGHT OF WAY TRAVEL

The Contractor shall limit equipment travel to the surveyed right-of-way and existing municipal and provincial roads. Use of equipment of any type is not permitted outside the clearing limits of the right of way without prior approval. To obtain approval for additional or new travel routes, the Contractor shall notify the Owner's representative a minimum of five working days in advance of such requirements and not commence work until written approval is given by the Owner's representative.

850.04 BOGS AND WETLANDS

Bogs and wetlands are considered sensitive terrain because of their high disturbance potential. Travel by machinery across bogs and wetlands shall be avoided whenever possible. When such travel is necessary, it shall be carried out as directed by the Owner's representative. Bog excavation shall conform with good construction practices and be carried out in accordance with other relevant sections of these specifications.