

Standard Environmental Requirements - Vegetation Management

The following Standard Environmental Requirements must be available on-site at all times and be read and understood by the crew before work commences. Please note that additional Site-Specific Environmental Requirements that are more restrictive may also apply:

Check for Site-Specific Environmental Requirements: Always check Work Management System (e.g., S123, Fulcrum, Collector, Salesforce, coordination spreadsheets, etc.) prior to work for additional Site-Specific Environmental Requirements. The Environmental Requirements must be kept on site with the tailboard form and be reviewed by the crew as part of the jobsite tailboard prior to starting work. If any of the requirements create a safety or scope concern, the crew must STOP WORK and contact SCE's Environmental Department.

Changes or Additions to Scope of Work Must Be Reviewed: The environmental review and associated Site-Specific Environmental Requirements apply to the prescription information in the Work Management System. All changes or additions, including but not limited to prescription changes (e.g., trim to removal or minor trim to deep prune), add-ons, access, specialized equipment, etc., must be reviewed and released by SCE's Environmental Department prior to the start of work.

Minimize work area: The work area shall be minimized to the smallest area necessary to complete the work.

No Overland Travel or Cutting Paths: Overland routes located in the Environmentally Sensitive Area layer (ESA) or on Government Lands must be approved by SCE's Environmental Department prior to work. When working in the ESA layer or on Government Lands, stay on existing paved or maintained dirt roads (two-tracks routes are overland travel and not approved under this measure); no trimming or removal of vegetation to create new or widen existing foot paths can occur.

Crew Check: Prior to starting work, crews will check the workspace for bird nests (e.g., pole cavities, vegetation to be removed). Contact SCE's Environmental Department prior to work within 200 feet of an active nest.

Cavity Nests: Prior to starting work, crews will check the workspace for cavities in poles and trees. Crews will tap loudly on poles and trees with potential cavity nests and watch for wildlife leaving the cavity or the sounds of young birds inside the cavity. If an active cavity nest is suspected, crew must STOP WORK and contact SCE's Environmental Department prior to work.

Injured/Trapped Wildlife: Prior to the start of work, crews will inspect their workspace for any injured or dead wildlife. In addition, look in holes and trenches, staged material, and equipment for any trapped wildlife- Call 833-SCE-2ENC if you observe dead, injured, or trapped wildlife.

Archaeological/Human Remains/Paleontological Discoveries: If Archaeological resources (Native American or historical artifacts), fossils, or human remains are encountered, STOP WORK, and call 833-SCE-2ENC and ask for an on-call Archaeologist.

Spill Release/Prevention: Vehicles/equipment must be inspected for leaks (e.g., fuel, oil, hydraulic fluids, etc.) and repaired prior to work. Storing, fueling, and maintenance shall not occur in wetland, waterway, or riparian areas or in locations where spilled materials could potentially enter a wetland, waterway, or riparian area. Spill kits/absorbent clean-up materials shall be available on-site and if used, disposed of properly. All gasoline powered equipment (e.g., chainsaws) must be placed on secondary containment or outside drainages/wetted areas. All releases to the environment, no matter the amount, must be reported to your SCE Representative and 844-GOT-SPIL (844-468-7745).

Avoid waters and wetlands: No work is allowed within waters or riparian vegetation unless there are Site-Specific Environmental Requirements authorizing such work and all necessary permits have been issued. If wetlands, waters, or riparian vegetation are encountered with no Site-Specific Environmental Requirements, STOP WORK and contact SCE's Environmental Department.

No unauthorized vegetation impacts: No trimming or cutting of vegetation shall occur within waters or riparian areas unless there are Site-Specific Environmental Requirements authorizing such work and all necessary permits have been issued. No cut materials, including chipped materials, can be disposed of within waters or riparian areas. If unplanned trimming or removal of vegetation is required, STOP WORK and contact SCE's Environmental Department.

Driving on road through waters (wet or dry): Only rubber wheeled vehicles and equipment are allowed to travel through drivable water crossings on existing access roads. No grading or road improvements/repairs/alterations (e.g., damming, diversions, fill, placement of plates or boards, etc.) are allowed within these areas unless reviewed and released by SCE's Environmental Department. No stopping within flowing or standing water. Crews shall avoid water crossings when soils are too wet/muddy to support the vehicle without creating ruts or causing the vehicle to become stuck.

No material or equipment in waters or riparian vegetation: No materials (e.g., construction materials and hardware, imported or native fill, gravel, riprap, excavated materials, debris, etc.) or equipment shall be staged/parked, refueled, stored, stockpiled, or disposed of in waters or riparian areas, or in locations where spilled or loose materials could potentially enter a wetland, waterway, or riparian area.

Foot Access: Only foot access is authorized within waters and within riparian vegetation. No mechanized equipment or vehicles are authorized within waters. Crews shall enter and exit the project site via the same route or trail. No vegetation may be trimmed without prior review and release by SCE's Environmental Department.

Chemical Application: No chemical application, including but not limited to herbicides, is authorized on public land or within or near environmentally sensitive resources (e.g., waters, wetlands, associated riparian habitat, species habitat) unless specifically approved in the Site-Specific Environmental Requirements.

Dust Control: No visible dust plumes are allowed. If dust plumes are observed, then slow speeds on dirt roads, water dirt/work areas, or work when the soil is not extremely dry.

Generator Usage: Generators are not allowed unless a Generator Ordering Form (GOF) has been completed 20 days prior to work. Contact Transportation Services Department (951) 440-8370 to verify if a form has been received; if no form has been submitted, contact the SCE representative to complete this form immediately.

Clean Vehicles and Equipment: All vehicles and any ground or vegetation disturbing equipment/tools must be cleaned and free of mud, soil, and plant material prior to entering state, federal, or tribal lands.

Reducing Impacts to Wildlife: Do not touch or feed wildlife. To the extent feasible, do not move or disturb downed logs and leaf litter. Dispose of all trash (including project-related material) within appropriate containers. Check beneath and around vehicles for wildlife before driving. Vehicle speed along access routes will not exceed 15 mph, unless otherwise posted.

If you cannot comply with these requirements or if you have questions, please contact
VMEnvironmentalSupport@sce.com

If an emergency (P1, refer to UVM-08) is encountered, please call (833) SCE-2ENC