

Vegetation – Inspection

Scope	Includes:	Vegetation situated within the Network Rail boundary 3rd party trees within falling distance of the NR boundary shall also be considered by the inspector when noted as potentially dead, dying or dangerous.
	Excludes:	Areas outside of Network Rail boundaries except as detailed above

Preparation

Tools and equipment required, but not limited to:

- Appropriate recording equipment
- Appropriate mapping/positioning equipment as necessary
- Minor vegetation clearing tools

Work planning considerations:

- Access over third party land
- Environmental considerations (SSSIs, Conservation areas and weed spray restrictions)
- Weather precautions
- Underfoot conditions
- Time of year (when allowed to inspect, what will be present)

Method

1. The inspector shall carry out the inspection in accordance with NR/SP/TRK/05201 Vegetation and NR/PRC/MTC/TK0135 Management of off track inspections, recording the following minimum asset information for each side of each 1/8 mile section:
 - Obstructed refuges, positions of safety, Authorised Walking Routes (AWRs)
 - Reduced clearances (for trains)
 - Impeded inspections of infrastructure
 - Impaired sighting
 - Dead, dying or dangerous treesIf photos are taken use date and time info, a fixed landmark should be included where possible
2. Where appropriate and safe to do so, minor issues shall be resolved using appropriate manual techniques. Issues that cannot be rectified shall be recorded and appropriate action taken to protect the infrastructure and third parties.

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3. Record details, any action taken and any action required.
4. Complete and sign record and return to line manager

References

Supports Ellipse Standard job

- 009054 Vegetation – Inspection and survey

If applicable refer to the following directly associated documents:

- NR/SP/TRK/001 Inspection & Maintenance of Permanent Way
- NR/SP/TRK/05201 Management of lineside vegetation
- NR/SP/OPS/095 Determining high risk sites for wrong side track circuit failures in leaf fall areas
- NR/SP/OPS/096 Determining high risk sites for low rail adhesion
- NR/PRC/OCS/096 Low rail adhesion sites - risk assessment process
- NR/PRC/MTC/0135 Management of off track inspections
- NR/PRC/MTC/0136 Maintenance of off track assets
- NR/GN/TRK/7001/TWI2L002 How to maintain a cess
- NR/GN/TRK/7001/TWI3L008 How to manage leaf fall
- NR/GN/TRK/7001/TWI3L009 How to manage vegetation

- Risk Control Sheets:
 - NR/L3/MTC/0002/TK0000 Generic Track Risks
 - NR/L3/MTC/0002/TK0301 Inspect Vegetation