



Montana Department of Transportation  
PO Box 201001  
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## **Memorandum**

To: Distribution

From: Paul Ferry, P.E. **PF**  
Highways Engineer

Date: December 15, 2014

Subject: Obliterate Roadway – Re-establishment of Vegetation

Due to some ambiguity in Section 212 of the Standard Specifications, a number of questions have arisen on recent projects concerning which items are included for payment in Obliterate Roadway. Although we have generally included all items associated with the obliteration of the existing roadway in the payment for Obliterate Roadway, Section 212 of both the 2006 and 2014 Standard Specifications notes that topsoil is paid by the cubic yard and seeding is paid by the acre. Section 212 also notes that seeding should be measured in accordance with Section 208.04, which applies to temporary sediment and erosion control. No mention is made of fertilizer, mulch, etc.

We have discussed this issue with the District Construction Engineers and have determined that all topsoil, seeding, fertilizer, condition seedbed and mulch associated with the establishment of new vegetation where the existing roadway has been obliterated, should be paid separately. Section 212 will be revised to state that these items will be measured and paid in accordance with Section 610 – Roadside Revegetation.

Since the obliterated roadway is part of the PTW, survey is typically available. To determine the area for these items in fill sections, use the distance from catch point to catch point multiplied by the length of the segment to be obliterated. For cut sections, use the distance between the points where the foreslopes intersect the flat-bottomed ditches. If the cut sections utilize v-ditches, use the distance between the hinge points of the v-ditches. Use a combination of the appropriate points where a cross section includes both a cut and a fill.

The topsoil, seeding, fertilizer, condition seedbed and mulch will be included in the Topsoil and Seeding summary. The items should be shown as line items at the bottom of the summary frame. While topsoil for the obliterated roadway needs to be included in the total for Topsoil Salvaging and Placing, it should not be included in the quantity for topsoil replacement that is added to the earthwork run. In general, even where existing topsoil is limited, additional topsoil will not be furnished for areas disturbed by the obliteration of the roadway.

This method of calculating revegetation items for the obliteration of the existing roadway should be used for all for all projects that have not been submitted to the checkers by December 24, 2014.

If you have questions concerning this information, please contact Paul Ferry.

Copies:

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