**70:04:06:06.  Start of mowing.** No mowing of the right-of-way may begin in the west river counties of Dewey, Jones, Stanley, Gregory, Lyman, or Tripp before June 15 and east of the Missouri River before July 10. All mowing by permit must be completed by September 1 each year, unless an extension is granted in writing by the department.

 Mowing of the median by contract may begin on the date the contract is approved and must be performed during the hours between sunrise and sunset. The contractor shall notify the department 24 hours before beginning mowing.

 Prior to July 10 in all counties east of the Missouri River and prior to June 15 in the counties of Dewey, Jones, Stanley, Gregory, Lyman and Tripp, the department may conduct mowing operations in the following right-of-way locations:

 (1)  The median of divided highways up to fifteen feet from the nearest edge of the shoulder;

 (2)  In-slopes up to eight feet from the nearest edge of the shoulder;

 (3)  Areas where mowing will enhance sight distance and other safety factors;

 (4)  Areas where mowing will enhance noxious weed control or promote grass growth; and

 (5)  The area from the right-of-way line up to the nearest edge of the shoulder at interstate rest areas, adjacent to cemeteries, within municipalities, and in developed areas up to one mile outside of municipal boundaries.

 **Source:** 2 SDR 33, effective November 9, 1975; 2 SDR 71, effective May 1, 1976; transferred from § 70:01:10:06, effective November 1, 1986; 13 SDR 129, 13 SDR 134, effective July 1, 1987; 14 SDR 14, effective August 2, 1987; 30 SDR 171, effective May 11, 2004; 47 SDR 27, effective September 14, 2020.

 **General Authority:** SDCL 31-5-21.

 **Law Implemented:** SDCL 31-5-21.