

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
PRACTICE DOCUMENTATION GUIDE
SHALLOW WATER MANAGEMENT FOR WILDLIFE**

646

646 - STEP 1. INITIAL EVALUATIONS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this step is to determine the landowner's desire to manage shallow water for wildlife.

The landowner needs to be interviewed to determine the purpose and need of this action. The need for action should address a resource concern(s) for which the NRCS has authority to act upon. The purpose can be defined with the objectives of the landowner.

Determine the landowner's wildlife objectives and whether he has the time and desire to manage the shallow water area.

646 - STEP 2. INVESTIGATIONS, SURVEYS, AND INVENTORIES

PURPOSE

The purpose of this step is to determine the feasibility of shallow water management on the site. This step includes identifying all needed clearances including cultural resources, utilities, and water rights. Do not proceed with planning until water rights for shallow water management creation are assured in writing.

646 - STEP 3. PRACTICE DESIGN

PURPOSE

The purpose of this step is to plan the Shallow Water Management project, incorporating the objectives of the NRCS and the landowner. A record will be developed of the completed action taken. All required deliverables for the design, installation, and compliance are found on the New Mexico Statement of Work. This document will be followed to successfully complete the project.

Shallow Water Management for Wildlife may require the installation of a Dike (356), Structures for Water Control (587), fencing (382), Pumping Plant for Water Control (533) etc. The appropriate standard should be consulted when developing the site specific specification for the job.

The landowner will provide the contractor the appropriate specifications, job sheets, and statement of work. Excess materials will not be provided to the landowner or the contractor. Standards are to assist the planner with the design of the practice. Specifications are to assist the landowner/contractor with the implementation of the practice.

An operation plan detailing timing of impoundment of water, rate of draw down and water depth which is compatible with the landowner's wildlife goals will be developed.

646 - STEP 4. INSTALLATION

PURPOSE

The purpose of this step is to document all variations from the specifications. As built drawings and technical notes are used to document variances from the practice design.

646 - STEP 5. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

PURPOSE

The purpose of this step is to assure the proper management and maintenance is carried out for the life of the practice. (See operation and maintenance in the practice standard 646 and other practice standards used such as 356, 533, 382, 587, etc.)

646 - STEP 6. COMPLIANCE OR SPOT CHECKING

PURPOSE

The purpose of this step is to determine that all work has been completed to the standards required by the NRCS.

All specifications, drawings (including as built), job sheets should be filed in the case file.