



Operation & Maintenance Plan Access Road (Code 560)

Expected Lifespan

The minimum expected lifespan of this practice is at least 10 years.

A properly operated and maintained **Access Road** is an asset to your property. The purpose of this practice is to act as a travel way for vehicles and/or equipment. The life of the practice can be assured and usually extended by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic operation and maintenance to maintain satisfactory performance. The following are some requirements to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

Safety

1. Temporary emergency use of an Access Road is allowed to gain access to property for exigent activities such as wildfire, hurricane, drought, flood, etc. as long as resource conditions are maintained.
2. Access road may be used as an animal trail, see O&M for Trails and Walkways.
3. Minimize usage during wet periods to limit damage of the access road.

Inspection and Maintenance

1. Routinely monitor the access road to assess any damage or the degree of maintenance that is needed. At a minimum, inspect access roads on an annual basis. However, provide additional inspection after all major storm events. Repair any and all damage as soon as it is recognized.
2. Maintain the roadway surface in a good condition, which includes periodic grading, filling or repair of the surface and occasional resurfacing with new materials, as needed.
3. Routinely grade the access road to remove depressions and ruts and to prevent ponding of water. Maintain a crown to the access road.
4. If fences are installed to prevent unauthorized human or livestock entry, follow the operation and maintenance criteria in the Fence O&M.
5. Remove debris from bridge and culvert openings to prevent blockage of stream crossings.
6. Immediately repair any damage to earth or gravel fills, culverts or other appurtenances.
7. Keep diversions, waterways and ditches clean of sediment and debris that may cause water to back up on to your access roads.
8. Reseed and mulch barren areas outside the normal wear surface of the access road.

Operation, Maintenance and Inspection Costs

1. It is estimated that the annual time to routinely inspect and make minor repairs to your Access Road will be:
 - a. Inspection = 1 hour/month/1000 feet of Access Road
 - b. Minor Repairs = 1 hour/month/1000 feet of Access Road
 - c. Grading = 1 hour/month/1000 feet of Access Road
 - d. During the lifespan, it is expected that additional stone and/or gravel will be required to routinely build up and maintain the wear surface of the access road.
 - e. Major repairs to damage caused by major storm event will require extra time and materials.
2. Most maintenance, such as mowing, replacing displaced gravel, etc., can be accomplished using common farm machinery. Occasional damage, caused by major storm events may require heavy construction equipment to make repairs.

Specific Site Requirements