

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN**  
**DIKE**  
**CODE 356**

Landowner/Operator \_\_\_\_\_

Job Location \_\_\_\_\_ GPS \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared By \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Operation and Maintenance Items**

A properly operated and maintained dike or levee is an asset to your farm. This structure was designed and installed to prevent inundation of farmland and to help control flooding. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of this installation can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out an effective operation and maintenance program. An effective operation and maintenance program includes:

- Periodically inspect gates, valves and other appurtenances for proper functioning, and their ability to maintain the water level at design elevations. Remove debris or flow blockage. Periodically operate gates and valves to help assure proper function.
- Periodically check elevations of earthfills and restore to grade and shape, if necessary. All settlement or cracks in the soil should be investigated (to determine the cause) and repaired.
- Check all rock riprap and erosion control matting sections for accelerated weathering and displacement of materials. Replace to original shape and grade if necessary.
- Repair any rodent, burrowing animal, vandalism, vehicle, or livestock damage.
- Remove debris that may accumulate on the dike and areas near the inlet and outlet.
- Maintain vigorous growth of vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization, and application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing or short term grazing may also be needed to control height.
- Maintain fences to prevent unauthorized human access or uncontrolled grazing of dike surfaces.
- Make sure all structure drains are functional and soil is not being transported through the drainage system. Screens and/or rodent guards must be maintained and in place.

Other \_\_\_\_\_

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