

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
\_\_\_\_\_, TEXAS

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN**  
**IRRIGATION SYSTEM, SURFACE AND SUBSURFACE**

Sponsor/Land user: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal description of practice location: SEC \_\_\_\_\_ T \_\_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_\_

A properly operated and maintained surface irrigation system is an asset to your farm. This irrigation system was designed and installed to apply irrigation water to meet the needs of the crops without causing excessive erosion or runoff. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of this system can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

**GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Only operate the system when needed to furnish water for plant growth.
- Operate the system at the pressure, discharge rate, duration and frequency as designed.
- Promptly repair all leaks, by replacing gaskets or worn parts.
- Make sure that the runoff water is promptly removed by a drainage or tailwater recovery system.
- During non-seasonal use, drain and place the removable part of the system in an area where it will not be damaged.
- Maintain all pumps, agitators, piping, valves and other electrical and mechanical equipment in good operating condition following the manufacturers recommendation(
- Eradicate or otherwise remove all rodents or burrowing animals. Immediately repair any damage caused by their activity.

