

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN**

LAND RECLAMATION, ABANDONED MINED LAND

Code 543

Land Owner/Operator _____

Job Location _____ Sec. _____ T. _____ R. _____

County _____ SWCD _____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Prepared By _____ Date _____

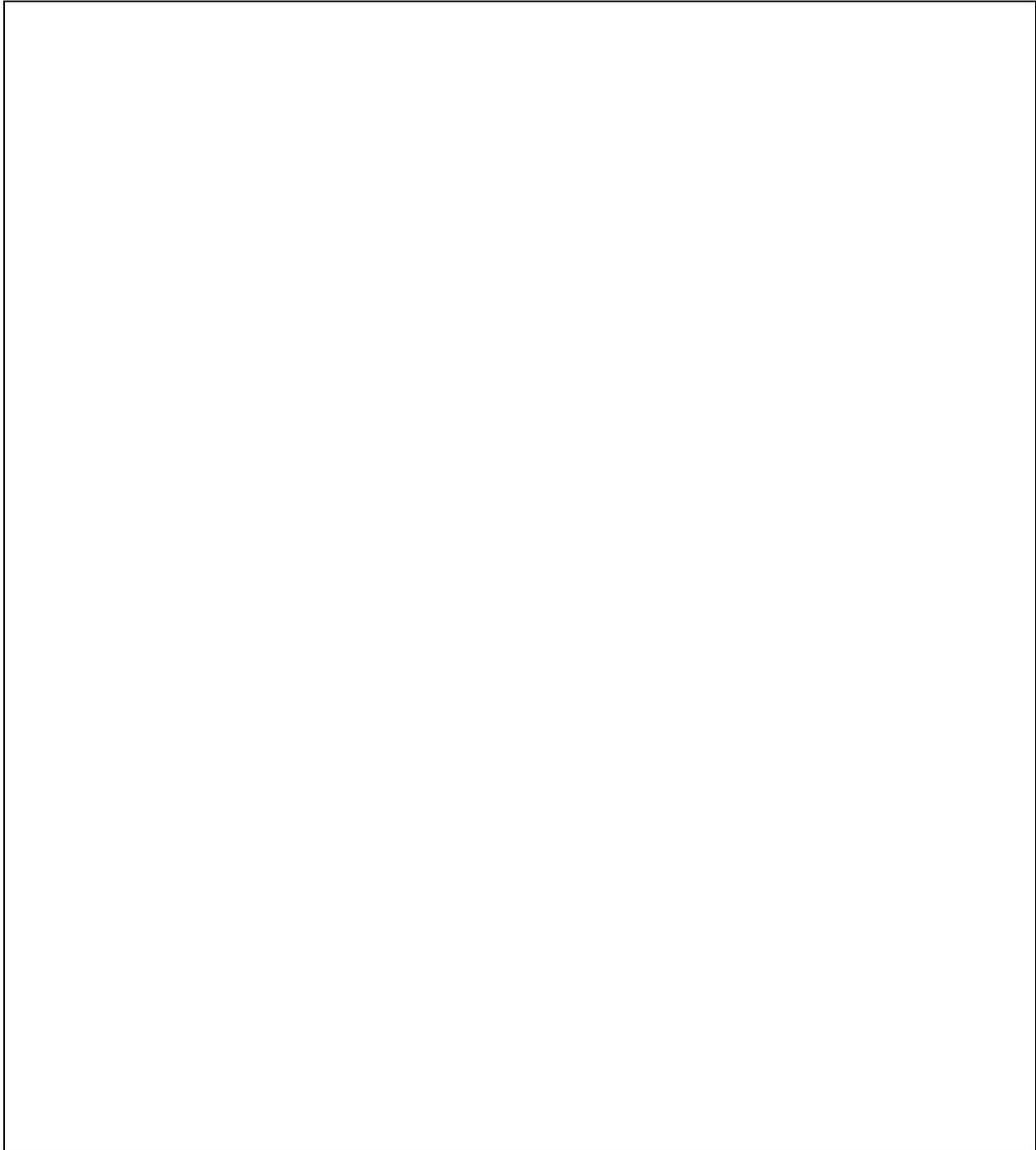
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

A properly operated and maintained abandoned mined land project is an asset to your operation. This project was designed and installed to stabilize abandoned mined areas so that they can be used to support desirable vegetation, reduce erosion and sedimentation, enhance water quality or quantity, maintain and improve the visual quality of the landscape, and protect public health, safety, and general welfare. 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 a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic operation and maintenance to maintain satisfactory performance. As a minimum, include the following items in the Operation and Maintenance Plan.

- Maintain appropriate warning signs.
- All fences, railings, and/or warning signs shall be maintained to prevent unauthorized human, vehicle or livestock entry.
- Monitor the project site for areas where settlement may adversely affecting drainage and land use. Fill low areas as needed.
- Monitor the project site for bare spots, eroded areas, and areas of excessive settlement and other areas where initial attempts to establish vegetation were not successful.
- Monitor soil fertility and vegetation to determine if additional nutrients, herbicides, or soil amendments are needed to support adequate vegetation.
- Inspect access roads to determine the need for stabilizing materials. Repair as needed.
- Inspect drainage structures and channels. Remove any obstructions to keep structures and channels clean and functional. Take corrective actions to address any erosion that occurs.
- Monitor the project site for noxious weeds and invasive species.
- Visually inspect grazed land. Take corrective actions to address any erosion that occurs.
- Inspect project area after heavy rains. Promptly repair any damage. Fill rills and gullies that occur and re-vegetate.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular, or livestock damage.
- Inspect for damage from rodents or burrowing animals. Repair any damage. Take appropriate corrective actions to alleviate further damage.
- Control vehicular traffic to minimize disturbance to reclaimed areas.

Specific Recommendations for Your Installation



Contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office for any additional technical assistance you might need for implementation of this Operation and Maintenance Plan for your Land Reclamation, Abandoned Mined Land project.