

POND

NOTEKEEPING

General

For all dams greater than 6 feet effective height and with more than 50 acre-feet of storage or dams greater than 25 feet effective height and with more than 15 acre-feet of storage, the letter in Exhibit 1 shall be signed by the landowner before construction begins. A copy of the signed letter shall be given to the landowner and the original included in the case file. After completion of dam construction, a copy of the completed LA-ENG-36, a copy of the signed letter from the landowner, and a detailed location map (e.g. quad sheet) shall be sent to the State Conservation Engineer. The State Conservation Engineer shall forward information to the Dam Safety Administrator, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

Design Survey

Frequently all a landowner needs in order to make a decision is an estimate of the pond size and yardage. Soil borings, determination of the approximate drainage area, elevations of the proposed shoreline, and a centerline profile will usually enable the technician to produce the information needed.

The use of approved charts and tables permits the design survey and construction layout on many smaller ponds to be carried out as one operation – a desirable procedure.

A soils investigation shall be made on all farm ponds (dam type and dugouts) and the findings recorded on LA-ENG-14, LA-ENG-36, or LA-ENG-538. If there is a water table, the depth at which it exists will be recorded.

In those cases where the landowner decides not to construct the pond, the data shall be retained in the field office files for a reasonable period of time in the event the farm changes ownership, or the landowner later decides to proceed with construction.

Special construction specifications will be provided where unusual foundation conditions or fill materials require special care in construction; or where specific types of construction machinery are required.

Construction Layout

Profile and cross section the proposed embankment and spillway location as needed to set fill and slope stakes or to prepare fill sheet. Set enough well marked stakes to guide the farmer or contractor in installing all appurtenant structures necessary for operation of the pond.

Planned yardage may be determined by using yardage tables, approved computer programs or by working through applicable columns on LA-ENG-36, if the base of the dam is reasonably smooth and uniform. Appropriate tabular forms may be used to record yardage when length of embankment is excessive. Where the base is irregular, the end areas shall be plotted and measured, and the yardage obtained by average end areas.

If core trench yardage is determined, record calculations on LA-ENG-36.

Where unforeseen physical conditions prohibit completion of a pond or reservoir as originally planned and an alternate design will meet specifications, the new planned yardage shall be computed and cleared with interested parties. Where applicable, any change in yardage shall be cleared with the ASCS office, the farmer and the contractor.

Construction Check

Profile the centerline of the entire length of the embankment, extending the profile entirely across the spillway. Take cross-sections of the embankment at 200 foot intervals with a minimum of one representative cross-section. Profile the centerline of completed spillway, extending the profile above and below the spillway control section.

In case of an excavated pond, take at least one longitudinal and one lateral cross-section. Prepare sketch of pond on LA-ENG-14 and show dimensions.

If a principal spillway, drainpipe, water pipe, or a trickle tube is used, the following data shall be recorded on LA-ENG-36 or in bound or looseleaf field notebooks:

1. Dimensions, elevations and material of the completed riser and barrel assembly.
2. Location, elevation and size of valves and gates.
3. Number, location, size and kind of seepage control used.
4. Computations of quantities which are a factor in determining cost.

Record statement whether or not clearing was done satisfactorily in the reservoir area, if clearing is part of the job.

Recording Data

Embankment pond field notes will be recorded on LA-ENG-36, except for ponds with long embankments the notes may be recorded in bound or looseleaf notebooks. Excavated pond field notes will be recorded on LA-ENG-14.

Recording of Completed Practice

Show completed ponds in red on the field office copy of the conservation plan map, or, if not available, on aerial photograph of overlay. Number all ponds. If cost sharing was received place the year completed behind the pond number (i.e. 1-88, 2-88, etc.).

Filing Notes and Records

See General Manual 120, Administrative Services; Part 408, Records; Subpart D, Exhibits; 210, Engineering; 210-11, Conservation Practices.

N-378-4

Dam Safety Administrator
Louisiana DOTD
P.O. Box 94245, Capitol Station
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: Pond Construction

I am aware that the design, construction and operation of all dams within Louisiana is regulated by the Rules and Regulations for Dam Safety Program as developed by the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development. I am also aware of the liability that is associated with owning a dam.

Since I am receiving design and construction assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the dam described below is excluded from the approval process outlined in the Dam Safety Regulations. However, if for some reason (such as a land use change) the dam no longer comes within the criteria of the Natural Resources Conservation Service National Handbook for Conservation Practice- Standard 378, I agree to modify the structure if necessary to comply with the requirements of the Dam Safety Regulations. I also agree to allow access for inspection of this structure.

Sincerely,

Owner

DAM LOCATION: