

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN

**IRRIGATION RESERVOIR
CODE 436**

Landowner/Operator _____

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

County _____ SWCD _____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Prepared By _____ Date _____

OVERVIEW

A properly operated and maintained irrigation reservoir is an asset to your farm. This reservoir was designed and installed to provide storage for your irrigation system. The performance life of the structure can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program. Operation and maintenance (O&M) is necessary for all conservation practices and is required for all practices installed with NRCS assistance. The land user is responsible for proper O&M throughout the life of the practice and as may be required by federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

Operation refers to using the act of using the practice in compliance with all laws, regulations, ordinances, and easements; and in such a manner that will result in the least adverse impact on the environment and will permit the practice to serve the purpose for which it was installed. Maintenance includes work to prevent deterioration of the practice, repairing damage, or replacing components which fail.

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 an effective operation and maintenance program.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Periodically inspect the spillways and control gates for proper operation and for their ability to maintain the water level to design elevations. At approximately 3 to 6 month intervals, exercise all gates and valves by opening and closing to help assure proper function.
- Periodically check for and immediately remove any blockage or obstructions of spillways, trash racks and pipelines.
- Remove sediment from traps and/or storage facilities as needed to maintain design capacity and efficiency.
- Periodically inspect embankments for damage from erosion or undesirable vegetation and repair where necessary. Erosion, settlement or cracks in earthen sections must be investigated (to determine the cause) and repaired.
- Inspect any concrete for accelerated weathering, spalling, settlement, misalignment, or cracks. Repair defects.
- Inspect any rock riprap for accelerated weathering and displacement. Repair to original grades if necessary.
- Inspect all associated pipelines and pumping plant components and repair or maintain as needed.
- Inspect metal surfaces for rust and other damage. Especially inspect sections in contact with earthfill and/or other materials. Repair or replace damaged sections and apply a protective covering.

