

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
PRACTICE DOCUMENTATION GUIDE
POND SEALING OR LINING – BENTONITE SEALANT
521C

521 – STEP 1. INITIAL EVALUATION

PURPOSE

The purpose of this step is to determine the landowner's desire to install a Pond lining in a pre-determined location for the intended purpose(s) (See NRCS Conservation Practice Standard 521).

The landowner must be interviewed to determine the purpose and needs for a Pond lining facility. Considerations will include the landowner goals and objectives, existing condition and effects of this practice on existing soil, water, air plant, animal and human resources. A discussion of NRCS Pond Lining Standards, Specifications, and Job Sheet shall take place. Role of the landowner and the person assisting with the planning and installation should also be discussed. Additional pertinent questions should be asked on a site-specific basis.

521-STEP 2. INVESTIGATIONS, SURVEYS, AND INVENTORIES

PURPOSE

The purpose of this step is to identify the mandatory preliminary resource inventory and operations that are required before a lining can be planned and installed. Resource inventories will include all data and information needed to make informed decisions in the planning and installation of the lining and any follow-up management needs. Appropriate resource inventories could include soils, topography, plant community water resources, and all physical features such as existing fencing, roads, water wells, natural barriers, water gaps, ditches, and irrigation systems etc. that might have an effect on planning of the lining. Adjacent land uses and resources that would be affected by the lining installation should also be considered. If the Microirrigation System is being installed to facilitate prescribed grazing then inventory data needed for pre-

scribed grazing will also be needed. "See Practice Standard and Specifications for Prescribed Grazing 528a. Identify map resources needed such as the proper USGS 7.5 minute gradrangle sheet, soils, and road maps as well as aerial photography.

Also include identifying all needed utility clearances, archeological clearances, (See NRCS Conservation Practice Job Sheet 521, ENV-1 Environmental Assessment, and Resource Inventory Checklist).

521 – STEP 3. PRACTICE DESIGN

PURPOSE

The purpose of this step is to develop a design for the lining.

This practice will be designed in accordance with all federal, state and local laws and ordinances.

Pond lining shall consist of an acceptable design and layout to reduce seepage losses to acceptable standards for fencing designs to control the animal(s) or people of concern and meet the intended life of the practice.

Resource inventories, local conditions, and the intended use will need to be assessed for the proposed facility design and location. See Prescribed Grazing Standards and Specifications 528a for Microirrigation Systems designed to facilitate grazing management.

A design will be developed with the client that meets the intended goals and objectives. Designs should include: All fencing materials shall be of a high quality. All appropriate job sheets, maps and reports must be developed with landowners input, review and concurrence (See Conservation Practice Standard, Specification, and Job Sheet 521).

SITING

The purpose of this step is to insure that the facility is properly located and that all involved fully understands where it is to be located.

MATERIALS/EQUIPMENT

The purpose of this item is to insure an understanding of the materials/equipment used to install the lining. Appropriate specifications, job sheets and expectations that include the types and number of each type of materials/equipment will be provided to the landowner and all those involved in the planning and construction of the pond lining.

521-STEP 4. PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this step is to document and describe each component of the planned lining, which includes step by step instructions to be used while installing a pond lining.

This will include the documentation of all components described in Specification and/or Job She 521. Additional reference material should be included as needed and appropriate.

The landowner must be provided with a complete detailed design and plan in the form of a Conservation Plan, Plan Map, and NRCS Pond lining Job Sheet 521 in order to document the design and location. Items not described in Job Sheet 521, that are essential for location and construction of the facility pond lining, will be added to the specifications, drawings, and/or Job Sheet.

521-STEP 5. MANAGEMENT, OPERATION, AND MAINTENANCE

PURPOSE

The purpose of this step is to assure that proper management, operation, and maintenance is completed on the pond lining (See NRCS Practice Standard and Specification 521)

This requires a familiarity with the design and correct operation of the facility in a proper and safe fashion. Periodic operations and maintenance schedules should be implemented. These measures should be discussed with and understood by the landowner.

521-STEP 6. COMPLIANCE OR SPOT CHECKING

PURPOSE

The purpose of this step is to determine that all work has been completed to the standards required by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. All completed NRCS forms should be collected from the landowner and submitted to the appropriate persons (See NRCS Practice Standard, Specification, and Job Sheet 521, NM-ENV-1 Environmental Assessment, and Resource Inventory Checklist).

DOCUMENTS

Copies of all completed Job Sheets, Data Sheets, and Work Sheets should be submitted to the Natural Resources Conservation Service representative within 10 working days of completion of the pond lining. This includes the Practice Requirements as outlined in Job Sheet 521 and any other job sheets that may be needed for this practice to meet the intended goals and objectives.