

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN
IRRIGATION LAND LEVELING
CODE 464**

Landowner/Operator _____

Job Location _____ GPS _____

Prepared By _____ Date _____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

Operation and maintenance (O&M) is necessary for all conservation practices and is required for all practices installed with the Natural Resources Conservation Service 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 operation of 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.

Necessary operation and maintenance items for this practice include:

- Avoid use of tillage equipment that leaves ridges or depressions that cannot be removed by subsequent tillage operations.
- Periodically use a planing operation to reestablish the installed field gradient. High efficiency surface irrigation systems on cultivated ground require releveling or "touch up" every growing season. With on-farm laser controlled equipment, releveling every year has been shown to be approximately the same cost as releveling every third or fourth year. Increased irrigation uniformity is a benefit of more frequent re-establishment of planned leveling grades and elevations.
- Remove rodents or burrowing animals. Repair any damage caused by their activity.
- Repair any vandalism, vehicular, or livestock damage.

Other _____

