NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

VIRGINIA

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

WETLAND ENHANCEMENT

CODE 659

Land Owner/Operator_____

County_____ SWCD_____ Farm/Tract No._____

Prepared By_____ Date_____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

A properly operated and maintained wetland is an asset to the farm. This practice was designed and installed to augment the wetland functions beyond the original natural conditions on a former, degraded, or naturally functioning wetland. Sometimes this is done at the expense of other functions. Estimated life span of this installation is at least 15 years. The life of the wetland can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a systematic operation and maintenance program. A Monitoring Checklist is attached to this O&M Plan.

This practice will require periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. Your operation and maintenance program requirements include:

- Any use of fertilizers, mechanical treatments, prescribed burning, pesticides, and other chemicals will assure that the intended purpose of the wetland restoration is not compromised. The timing and methods for the use of fertilizers, pesticides, prescribed burning, or mechanical treatments are:

  _____
  _____
  _____

- Management actions shall maintain vegetation and control of undesirable vegetation. Identify circumstances when the use of biological control of undesirable plant species and pests (e.g. using predator or parasitic species) is appropriate, and the approved methods. Management of water depth and duration may be utilized to control unwanted vegetation.

  _____
  _____
  _____

- Actions to address any expected problems from invasive or noxious species include:

  _____
  _____
  _____

- Accumulated sediment will be removed when the wetland function is adversely affected.
- Conditions which indicate the need to use haying or grazing as a management tool, including timing and methods, are listed below. Minimize disturbance to ground nesting species, especially during the primary nesting season.

  _____

- Inspect the embankments and structures on the site at least annually and after major storm events. Immediately repair any damage. See attached Monitoring Checklist.
- The timing and level settings of water control structures for the establishment of desired hydrologic conditions, for management of vegetation, and for optimum wildlife and fish use are:
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular, or livestock damage.

Additional Operation and Maintenance Requirements Specific to this Plan:

Appendix 13D Monitoring Checklist

Monitoring Checklist

Observer _____ **Date** _____

Site name and location _____

Structure condition

Water control structures

N/A _____

Structure in original condition?
Yes ____ No ____

Debris constricting flow?
Yes ____ No ____

Corrosion to concrete, metal parts?
Yes ____ No ____

Missing components?
Yes ____ No ____

Unauthorized alterations?
Yes ____ No ____

Description _____

_____

_____

Embankments

N/A _____

Vegetative cover adequate?
Yes ____ No ____

Rills, gullies
Yes ____ No ____

Wave erosion
Yes ____ No ____

Other: _____

Description _____

_____

_____

Nuisance plants and animals

Nuisance vegetation

Is nuisance vegetation reducing wetland function?

Yes _____ No _____

Description _____

_____

_____

Nuisance fish/animals

Are nuisance species of fish or animals reducing wetland function?

Yes _____ No _____

Description _____

_____

_____

Wetland hydrology

Is current hydroperiod and hydrologic regime consistent with planned functions for present season and climatic conditions?

Yes _____ No _____

Description _____

_____

_____

Wetland vegetation

Is current wetland plant community consistent with planned functions for age of project, season, and climatic conditions?

Yes _____ No _____

Description _____

_____

_____

Wetland wildlife use

Is current wildlife use consistent with planned functions for age of project, season, and current climatic conditions?

Yes _____ No _____

Description _____

_____

_____

Wetland landscape conditions

Have land use changes occurred adjacent to the wetland or in the wetland watershed which could affect:

water budget? Yes _____ No _____

water quality? Yes _____ No _____

wildlife use? Yes _____ No _____

vegetation? Yes _____ No _____

sediment delivery? Yes _____ No_____

structure function? Yes _____ No _____

structure safety? Yes _____ No _____

other wetland functions (list)

_____

_____

_____

Description _____

_____

_____

Photographs:

Number **Date** **Description**

Recommended actions:

Remarks: