

**United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Montana**

Operation and Maintenance Guide

For Your Dam, Diversion

Operator _____
 Project _____
 Farm No. _____ Tract No. _____ Field No. _____
 NRCS Office _____ Phone _____

A properly operated and maintained diversion dam is an asset to your operation. This system was designed and installed to serve as a permanent structure(s) for the diversion of channel flows to meet your on-farm irrigation requirements. The estimated life span of the installation is at least 20 years and can be assured and usually increased by carrying out the following recommendations. This checklist is provided for your convenience in order to help you develop a good operation and maintenance plan.

OPERATION CHECKLIST

- ✓
- r Remove all check boards at the end of the irrigation season to avoid damage to the structural works due to ice flows and large debris during high runoff times.

MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

- ✓
- r Immediately repair any cracks or breaks in the concrete. Investigate cause before repair and take measures to prevent reoccurrence.
- r Remove sediment, debris, or any blockage that restricts capacity.
- r Remove woody vegetation and perennials from areas adjacent to the structural works.
- r Repair spalls, cracks and weathered areas in concrete surfaces.
- r Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular or livestock damage.
- r Eradicate or otherwise remove all rodents or burrowing animals. Immediately repair any damage caused by their activity.
- r Do not operate motorized vehicles within six feet of structural works.
- r Repair any gulling to earthen areas surrounding the structural works.