

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

**Operation and Maintenance Guide
to Stabilize and Protect Your
Stream Channel and Streambank
(For Practice Standards 322, 326, 395, 580, 582, and 584)**

Operator: _____

Project: _____

Location: _____ Sec. _____, T. _____, R. _____

NRCS Office _____ Phone _____

Your stream channel and bank protection plan was designed and installed to reduce stream erosion. Like crops or livestock, its success depends on your good care. Finding and treating problems early is vital to avoiding major repair costs and alternatives. Inspections need to be done on a regular basis and immediately after big flows. The inspection schedule on the back of this worksheet is your responsibility. It helps to remind you to document dates on your calendar. Contact us, NRCS, if you need assistance or have questions.

INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

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- r Repair any eroded areas and re-plant with suitable seed or plant material(s).
- r Maintain desirable vegetation and control weeds and invasive trees/shrubs.
- r Manage grazing to keep vegetation healthy according to a management plan.
- r Repair damage caused by vehicles or machinery.
- r Control beaver cutting, browse damage, burrowing, and other damage by wildlife.
- r Check structures for anchoring and soundness. Repair weaknesses immediately.
- r Remove any debris that hinders operation of the system.
- r Maintain fences.
- r Remove large trees species that grow in lower bank areas. If they fall, large trees might rip apart a streambank. Leave small tree species for added protection.
- r After the stream and bank stabilization practices are all satisfactorily established, inspect the site at least once a year and/or after major flow events.
- r **See back of this form for more details specific to your site.**

