

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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October 7, 2011

NEW MEXICO BULLETIN NO. 120-12-01

SUBJECT: ADS – AGREEMENT – ANNUAL OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE INSPECTIONS - Dams

TO: All Offices

Purpose: To emphasize the need for conducting Annual O&M Inspections on all Watershed Dams each year.

Expiration Date: December 30, 2011

Attached is the newly revised Informal Dam Safety and Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Inspection Report form. October into early December is a great time to conduct the annual O&M Inspections on structural measures with an active O&M Agreement. This Bulletin is a reminder.

It is important that Sponsors conduct thorough inspections of these structures on an annual basis; as a well maintained structure is the only way to prevent action against a Board or even the individuals themselves should there be an incident. NRCS personnel are not required to accompany them to each structure, but should if workloads and schedules allow.

All reports for a dam must include: NM-ADS-126, "Informal Dam Safety and O&M Inspection Report, maintenance activities completed and scheduled activities. The newly updated 10-2011 form is on the Engineering SharePoint; to obtain access to the SharePoint request it of Brenda Howard, Administrative Assistant, in the Engineering section.

It is very important to have the previous year's form with you to verify what maintenance was carried out as specified back then. Also make sure to take along a copy of the As-Builts to refer to as these are commonly referred to during the Inspection. Record the names and entities of all the persons assisting on the Inspection. Insure that the Sponsor signs the Inspection Form at the bottom of page 2. Remember, we do not conduct Inspections without the Sponsor.

Please contact Clifford Sanchez at (505) 761-4404 or Roger Ford at (505) 761-4430 of your scheduled Inspections. Also notify your Area Engineer. Send completed inspection reports to Eduardo Zuniga, CET Engineering, with cc to Clifford Sánchez, ASTC/Water Resources. They will insure that a copy is sent to the NM Dam Safety Bureau under the Office of the State Engineer, if the Sponsor does not send it. The DSB has a thorough Webpage.

Reference: Title 180 - National Operations & Maintenance Manual, Part 500, Subpart A, Section 500.02.

for 
NORMAN VIGIL
Acting State Conservationist

Attachment