

EXAMPLE  
STANDARD OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN

Water Facility:  
Easement Holder:

The easement incorporates this Operation and Maintenance Plan (O&M Plan) and any attachments thereto, and the Holder agrees to operate and maintain the authorized facilities and use the occupied National Forest System (NFS) lands in accordance with the following stipulations:

1. Regulate channel flows so that a freeboard is maintained above the water line.
2. Use only approved equipment listed below and maintenance routes agreed and as shown on the attached map and to repair all damage resulting from said use:
3. The Holder shall: be responsible for prevention and control of soil erosion and gullying on land covered by the easement and the land adjacent thereto resulting from operations and maintenance of granted use; maintain channel to prevent downcutting and bank failure; remove all obstructions from the channel; revegetate or otherwise stabilize all ground where the soil has been exposed; and be responsible for control of and spread of noxious weeds, as identified by the USDA Forest Service and the local county weed list.
4. The Holder shall inspect the facility prior to use each year and make necessary repairs. Work that is considered other than routine maintenance and/or minor repairs shall be discussed in advance with the Forest Officer. All repairs shall be acceptable to and completed by the date agreed to by the Holder and the Forest Officer.
5. The Holder will contact the Forest Officer for approval before proceeding with work that is other than routine operations. Some of these situations are:
  - a. Bringing in and using heavy equipment other than that approved in 2. above.
  - b. Using other than approved maintenance routes for access.
  - c. Motorized use in a closed area in an emergency situation, other than that approved above.
  - d. Removal of significant amounts of vegetation and silt and deposition of the same, if on National Forest System lands.
  - e. Burning, application of seed mixtures (weed-free seed required), chemical application or other means of vegetation control measures.
  - f. Reconstruction or re-routing of a portion of the ditch (the latter would also entail a new easement).
6. If any items of archaeological, paleontological, or historic value, including but not limited to historic or prehistoric artifacts, structures, monumnets, human remains and funerary objects (grave goods) are discovered, the Holder shall immediately cease all activities which may disturb such items and notify the forest Service. The Holder will notify the Forest Service and shall not resume activities until written approval is given by the authorized officer. Failure to comply with this stipulation may result in civil or criminal penalties under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979.
7. This O & M Plan will be reviewed annually by the Holder and may be amended by mutual agreement when signed and dated by the Holder and the District Ranger.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Holder

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Ranger

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewed: Director, Physical Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date