

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN & AGREEMENT

Decommissioned Sallacoa Creek Watershed Structure No. 77 Lick Creek Rock Lined Chute Gordon County, Georgia

This document supplements the Operation and Maintenance Agreement signed by the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Gordon County, and the Coosa River Soil and Water Conservation District. It may be revised by mutual consent of all signatory parties.

This plan defines responsibilities for operating, inspecting, and maintaining the rock lined chute constructed as part of decommissioning of the Sallacoa Creek Watershed Structure No. 77. These responsibilities shall remain in effect for 10 years from the date the decommissioning of the structure is determined complete by NRCS. After the expiration of this O&M Plan, the Sponsors may still continue to be responsible for operation and maintenance until the ownership is transferred.

Description of the Practice:

The decommissioning site is located in Gordon County, Georgia approximately 6.5 miles north of Fairmount, Georgia along U.S. highway 411. The easement is owned by Gordon County and the Coosa River Soil and Water Conservation District.

The dam was decommissioned and a rock lined chute was constructed to reconnect Lick Creek. The rock lined chute is: +/- 520' long, 8-feet deep, 12-foot bottom width with 3:1 side slopes and connects Lick Creek through the area formerly occupied by the footprint of the dam.

Estimated Annual O&M Costs:

Gordon County, and the Coosa River Soil and Water Conservation District are responsible for the operation and maintenance activities for the Lick Creek Rock Lined Chute. The County will assist the District in structure operation and by providing maintenance in compliance with requirements identified in this agreement. It is estimated that the average annual cost of maintenance will be \$3,000 Estimated costs are as follows:

- Yearly inspection \$ 2000
- Debris removal \$ 1000

Operation:

Gordon County, and the Coosa River Soil and Water Conservation District will be responsible for all operation activities.

Maintenance:

It is the responsibility of Gordon County, and the Coosa River Soil and Water Conservation District to ensure that the following operation and maintenance items, as a minimum, are addressed annually. Gordon County and the Coosa River Soil and Water Conservation District will work cooperatively to complete O&M activities and will both participate in the inspections.

- (1) Trees, Brush, Woody Growth - Control weeds, brush, and woody vegetation on the rock lined chute. Woody vegetation, trees, and large shrubs on the embankment and in the outlet channel flow area shall be controlled by spraying or removal. This vegetation shall be killed or removed before it reaches 1 foot in height, or 1 inch in diameter (stalks of woody growth). All pesticide application shall be done in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- (2) The rock lined chute and the reconnected floodplain area should be inspected twice yearly to verify that no sinkholes have developed or undermined any part of the structures. Debris Removal - The rock lined chute shall be kept clear of trees, logs, debris, trash, and other obstacles, which will interfere with the proper functioning of the structure.
- (3) The reconnected floodplain shall be mowed twice a year.
- (4) Rock Riprap - Rock riprap in the chute that is dislodged shall be replaced or moved back into its original configuration.
- (5) Outlet Channel - The outlet channel shall be inspected twice yearly. Any downstream obstructions that may cause water to back up the outlet of the rock lined chute shall be removed.
- (6) Easements/landrights – The terms and conditions of all easements and landrights documents shall be checked for potential violations.

A schedule for corrective actions shall be developed for completion of identified maintenance work in a timely manner.

Personnel:

All personnel involved in conducting inspections and performing O&M activities shall be properly trained and equipped. NRCS may assist in training sponsor employees. NRCS shall accompany the sponsor(s) on inspections for the first 3 years after completion of the rock lined chute. After the first three annual inspections, NRCS may continue to provide employees to accompany the sponsor during subsequent O&M inspections, if requested by the sponsors and if NRCS resources are available.

O&M Inspections:

The site will be inspected twice yearly and inspection forms submitted to NRCS prior to April 15th and August 1st each year. Inspection shall be coordinated to occur soon after the reconnected floodplain has been mowed. For the first 3 years after installation of the structure, an NRCS engineer shall participate in the inspections.

Records:

Gordon County, and the Coosa River Soil and Water Conservation District shall maintain the following records in a permanent file at the District office: a record of all significant actions taken; the cost of performance and completion dates; as-built drawings; permits; and related material. Copies of all inspection reports shall be provided to NRCS.

Chairman
Gordon County, Georgia Board of Commissioners

Chairman
Coosa River soil & Water Conservation District

Mitch Attaway
Executive Director
Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission

Terrance Rudolph
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service