

OKLAHOMA CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Conservation Practice Standard

Pond – Sediment Removal
code – PC

Purpose

Removing accumulated sediment from water impoundment structures in response to Executive Order 2022-23.

Applicability

Applies to water impoundment structures that provide livestock water which have sediment that needs removed to return the original water storage volume to the structure.

Scope

This standard establishes the minimum acceptable requirements for the design and sediment removal from ponds if:

1. Cleaning out the existing pond is more feasible than constructing a new pond.
2. The pond otherwise meets the requirements of the Natural Resources Conservation Service's conservation practice standard for Pond-378.

Design Criteria

1. To protect the integrity of the dam, no removal of sediment should come from the face, base or vicinity of the dam nor shall the dam be cut to drain the pond or a water supply line be bored through the dam.
2. The excavation of the spoils should extend below the original bottom of the pool area to reduce the risk of the dam developing a leak.
3. Spoil spreading or disposal best management practices:
 - Spoil removed must be placed and managed so that it does not erode back into the structure.
 - Spoil shall be placed above the top of dam elevation to prevent re-saturation and movement back into the pool area.
 - Do not place the spoil in drainage ditches, riparian areas or areas of concentrated water flow.
 - Spread spoil in relatively uniform layer.
 - Spoil area to blend with landscape.
 - Spoil slopes to be stable with 3:1 or flatter.
 - Maximum spoil depth is 3 feet above original ground
 - Re-vegetate as soon as practical following disposal.

Consideration should be given to spreading the spoil on an adjacent field.

4. Identify size of pond as originally constructed:
 - small – less than 1,000 yards
 - medium – 1,001-2,000 yards
 - large – more than 2,001 yards
5. Cost-share is authorized for removal of sediment in the pool area on a water impoundment structure that will be utilized for livestock water.
6. Cost-share is not authorized for:
 - a. Any repairs or modifications to the dam.
 - b. Replacement of spillway pipe.
 - c. Sediment removal in structures that will not provide livestock water.

Map Requirements

An aerial photography map showing the existing pond must be attached to the application when submitted for consideration and approval.

Technical Responsibilities

The district technical representative has the responsibility for:

1. Determining the need for the practice by confirming drought conditions at the pond site.
2. Application of this specification requires pre and post evaluation and inspection.
3. Design of the practice based upon the minimum extent necessary.
4. Certifying that the completed practice meets the Commission practice standard.