



**Canal and Levee Self-Audit Checklist**

CANAL AND LEVEE PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

**Yes No**

Are canals and levee inspections conducted and documented?

Are creeks cleaned periodically and brush removed?

Is dumping monitored and debris/articles removed?

Are basin bottoms dug out and material used to flatten side slopes, preferably to 6:1 or 7:1 slope?

Are canal banks reshaped periodically to maintain the “prism” cross-section, reduce rodent activity, and weeds?

Are canal/ditch bottoms dredged regularly as needed?

In the event of a failure, is there an Emergency Management Plan?

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O AND M STRUCTURES PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

**Yes No**

Are canals and levee structures regularly inspected and documented during water and when dry?

Are valves and gates regularly operated and maintained to allow ease of operation?

Are traveling screens inspected and serviced to maintain functionality and maximum water flow?

Are structures defined as dams or reservoirs by DWR, Division of Safety of Dams, inspected as required?

Has all SCADA communication systems and equipment been tested and documented?

In the event of a failure, is there an Emergency Management Plan?

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PEST CONTROL

**Yes No**

Is ripping (in canal bottom and along toe) done to destroy burrows before reforming?

When mowing is used as an alternative, is an herbicide used to reduce erosion?

Is trapping of fur-bearing or game animals done with depredation permits from Fish and Game (including beavers)?

Do only persons properly trained or under direction of certified applicators (QAC) perform pest control activities, including gassing, gopher bombs, and poisoning?

Are rodent barriers used to prevent some rodent activity where other methods are not effective (trench, then fill with concrete, adjacent to ditch bank)?

**This model form/template must be customized to meet your Agency’s needs.**

WEEDS

**Yes No**

Is the canal prism free of vegetation?

Are weeds under control to allow visual inspection of canal banks/levees?

Are trees removed as soon as possible to avoid root intrusion in canal bank as allowable?

Are ditch banks/levees mowed (as opposed to weed spraying) to prevent erosion?

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SAFETY

**Yes No**

Are access gates locked?

Are “No Trespassing” signs maintained?

Is proper hazard signage posted if razor wire is used on access gates and fences?

Are ladders, ropes, and buoys maintained inside flowing canals to allow safe exit?

Are hazard signs and screens installed at siphons?

Is at least one U.S. Coast Guard-approved, 30-inch life ring with not less than 90 feet of 600-pound capacity line, attached, and kept in a conveniently accessible place?

Is a second rope, suitable for securing a rescuer, 150-feet long, and 600-lb. capacity also in place?

Are personal flotation devices approved by the United States Coast Guard as a Type I PFD, Type II PFD, Type III PFD, or their equivalent, maintained in good condition?

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FALL PROTECTION

**Yes No**

Are guard rails installed on elevated areas over water, to allow handholds and fall protection anchor points?

Are guardrails installed over walkways 42-inches high with a mid-rail?

Are additional retrieval lines and winch (or other means of retrieval) available and

approved for such use?

Is slip proof decking installed on elevated areas over water to reduce the risk of slipping?