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Rancher's copy

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

Ted Thompson
Cooperator

#1

SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Assisted by

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

LAND CAPABILITY CLASSIFICATION

Your conservation farm plan is fitted to the conditions on your farm or ranch. The first step is a careful survey of the soils, including slope, erosion and other features. An experienced soil scientist plots this information on an aerial photograph.

The capability classification is a practical grouping of soils. Soils and climate are considered together as they influence use, management, and production on the farm or ranch.

The classification contains two general divisions: (1) Land suited for cultivation and other uses, and (2) land limited in use and generally not suited for cultivation. Each of these broad divisions has four classes which are shown on the map by a standard color and number. The hazards and limitations in use increase as the class number increases. Class I has few hazards or limitations, or none, whereas Class VIII has a great many.

Capability classes are divided into subclasses. These show the principal kinds of conservation problems involved. The subclasses are: "e" for erosion, "w" for wetness, "s" for soil, and "c" for climate.

Capability classes and subclasses, in turn, may be divided into capability units. A capability unit contains soils that are nearly alike in plant growth and in management needs.

LAND SUITED FOR CULTIVATION AND OTHER USES

CLASS I

Soils in Class I have few or no limitations or hazards. They may be used safely for cultivated crops, pasture, range, woodland, or wildlife.

CLASS II

Soils in Class II have few limitations or hazards. Simple conservation practices are needed when cultivated. They are suited to cultivated crops, pasture, range, woodland, or wildlife.

CLASS III

Soils in Class III have more limitations and hazards than those in Class II. They require more difficult or complex conservation practices when cultivated. They are suited to cultivated crops, pasture, range, woodland, or wildlife.

CLASS IV

Soils in Class IV have greater limitations and hazards than Class III. Still more difficult or complex measures are needed when cultivated. They are suited to cultivated crops, pasture, range, woodland, or wildlife.

LAND LIMITED IN USE--GENERALLY NOT SUITED FOR CULTIVATION

CLASS V

Soils in Class V have little or no erosion hazard but have other limitations that prevent normal tillage for cultivated crops. They are suited to pasture, range, woodland, or wildlife.

CLASS VI

Soils in Class VI have severe limitations or hazards that make them generally unsuited for cultivation. They are suited largely to pasture, range, woodland, or wildlife.

CLASS VII

Soils in Class VII have very severe limitations or hazards that make them generally unsuited for cultivation. They are suited to grazing, woodland, or wildlife.

CLASS VIII

Soils and land forms in Class VIII have limitations and hazards that prevent their use for cultivated crops, pasture, range, or woodland. They may be used for recreation, wildlife, or water supply.

LEGEND

	Farm Operations Boundary		Fence to be Removed		Marsh
	Ownership Boundary		Ditch to be Removed		Land Use Tie
	Land Use Boundary		Intermittent Stream		Trail
	Land Use Capability or Site Boundary		Deep Gullies		Building
	Temporary Vegetal Condition Boundary		Perennial Streams		Rock Outcrop
	Temporary Physical Condition Boundary		Natural Barrier		Corral
2 A./CM	Acres Required per Cow Month		Important Ridge Top		Stack Yard
EC,GC,FC,PC	Range Condition		Cattle Guard	H	Farmstead
$\frac{320}{160cm}$ or $\frac{320}{800sm}$	Surface Acres Cow or Sheep Months		Wet Spot		Field Number
	Improved Road		Pond or Lake		
	Farm Road		Spring		
	Railroad		Move Portable Sprinkler Lateral		

Note: When fences are combined with other symbols they may be shown as follows. = Fence along improved road, = Fence along a ditch, etc.

EXISTING

PROPOSED

	Fence
	Electric Fence
	Shelterbelt
	Stream Bank Protection
	Dike or Levee
	Pipe Line or Sprinkler Main
	Permanent Sprinkler Lateral
	Portable Sprinkler Lateral
	Flume
	Canal
	Irrigation Ditch
	Direction of Irrigation
	Pickup Ditch
	Diversion Ditch
	Drainage or Waste Ditch
	Closed Drain
	Terrace
	Tide or Flood Gate

EXISTING

PROPOSED

	Division Box or Turnout
	Pipe Riser
	Diversion Dam
	Check Dam or Gully Plug
	Drop or Overfall
	Dam and Reservoir
	Stock Pond
	Spring Development
	Spring and Trough
	Trough
	Well
	Windmill
	Windmill and Trough
	Water Tank
	Pump
	Salt Ground
	Small Reservoir

CONSERVATION AGREEMENT

between

Eureka

SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

and

Ted Thompson

I hereby request the District to assist me in developing a complete and practical soil and water conservation program for my land which is located approximately 30 miles in a northerly direction from Eureka and consists of 1200 acres.

When a District Representative and I have prepared such a program for my farm, I agree to follow the recommendations to the best of my ability in establishing conservation practices on my land.

We the supervisors of the Eureka Soil Conservation District agree to help you develop a conservation plan for your land in accordance with its needs and for your farm enterprise. We also agree to assist you in carrying out your plan by providing such information and technical or other assistance as we may have available.

This agreement will remain in effect until terminated by either party or the land is sold.

Ted M. Thompson
Farmer

12-57
Date

William J. Martin
District Supervisor

Dec 14/57
Date

Ted Thompson Ranch

SOILS DESCRIPTION

Four different types of soils were mapped on this ranch with a description of the best soils starting first.

The best land is classified as IIS₃ (colored yellow). This soil is characterized by being very deep - (over 60") - medium textured, having a moderate permeability rate, and having approximately a two percent slope. There is evidence of moderate erosion and a slight salinity and alkalinity condition.

There is also some soil classified as IIe₄ (colored yellow). It differs only from the IIS₃ soil in that the slope of this land is approximately three percent.

The next best soil is classified as IVw₁, (colored blue). It is characterized by being deep (36-60"), heavy textured, nearly level, and having a slow permeability rate. There is a moderate wetness condition caused by a fluctuating water table in the 5-20" zone. There is also a slight salinity and alkalinity condition present.

The soil not suited for cultivation is classified as VIS₁ (colored orange). It is characterized by being moderately deep, (20-36"), heavy textured, with a slow permeability rate, and on nearly level slopes. There is a saline, alkali and wet condition present.

OWNER Ted Thompson Plan No. #13
OPERATOR Ted Thompson Acres 1,280

This ranch is known as the Home Ranch, and is the headquarters for the owner. It is located about 30 miles north of Eureka, in Diamond Valley and is operated in conjunction with the other ranches in a livestock enterprise.

CROPLAND

Land Smoothing Fields 1 & 5 138 Acres

These fields will be smoothed by land planing because the soil are not deep enough to allow them to be leveled to grade.

Irrigation System Fields 1, 4, 5, 7, & 8 1,259 Acres

The sprinkler irrigation system will be used on fields 1, 5, and 6; as shown on the plan map. Fields will be irrigated with the proper amounts of water to allow for maximum growth. Winter waters will also be spread on these large fields in accordance with its needs.

Drainage Field 7 268 Acres

Drain ditches will be constructed to relieve the wet conditions in these fields. Size and proper design will be furnished upon request.

Improved Water Application Fields 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8 1,259 Acres

These fields will be irrigated by sprinkler irrigation and the application of irrigation waters will be greatly improved. System will be designed by competent engineer.

Rotation Cropping System

Fields 1 & 5

138 Acres

As the fields are plowed out and smoothed, an 8 year rotation system will be initiated; with 6 years of ranger alfalfa; smooth brome and 2 years of small grains.

Seeding rates: Ranger Alfalfa 6# per acre
Manchar Smooth Brome 8# per acre

PASTURE

Pasture Improvement

Fields 4, 6, 7, & 8

1,026 Acres

These fields will be used for native hay production and pasture. Clovers, wiregrass, flotgrass and several perennial weeds grow in these fields. Improvement of these fields will be accomplished by localized drainage, dragging and mowing old growth will improve the quality of this forage.

Fencing

Field 4

148 rods

148 rods of fencing will be installed to separate field #4 from the cropland above it.

Wildlife Area Improvement

Field 3

12 Acres

The big pond in field #3 has been stocked with large mouth bass and should be fertilized as needed depending on fishing pressure. These two ponds also offer feed and refuge for ducks and geese in the winter and probably have their greatest value for wildlife and will be managed as in the past.