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CONSERVATION PLAN

Ted Thompson *Rock Fields*
Cooperator

#5
over
x

Eureka
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Assisted by
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

THIS CONSERVATION PLAN is the result of team work. You and your neighbors, the members of the governing body of your soil conservation district, and the men of the Soil Conservation Service worked together to make it.

YOUR SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT was formed by local farmers. You are a member of that district. The district was created to serve you. Making this conservation plan is just one way in which the district can help you.

THE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE men helped work up this plan. They mapped your land to find out about its soil, slope, and how much erosion there had been. They looked at other things that needed to be known so as to develop the best conservation plan for your land. They helped in planning for the best use of the cropland, grazing land, woodland, and wildlife land. Where construction was needed, they gave engineering help. For maps and other special help, they went to their regional and state men. Back of these men are the national staff of the Soil Conservation Service and the various federal and state research stations. You got the best help known in soil and water conservation on this plan.

YOUR CONSERVATION PLAN will bring results only after you have carried out the practices planned for each field. When you have done this you will find that conservation farming protects your land and makes it produce better crops. On most farms conservation farming also pays more. The sooner you can do the things your plan calls for the sooner you will be able to get the benefits of conservation farming. If you need technical help to put the practices on your land you can get it through your district.

YOUR CONSERVATION PRACTICES will need attention from time to time to stay in good working order. The plan has been made to require as little upkeep work as possible. But this upkeep is important -- it's like a stitch in time. A little work on upkeep, done when needed, will avoid costly repairs.

YOUR CONSERVATION PLAN should be a blueprint for your farming operations for many years. You can adjust the plan if markets, prices, or other things make it wise to do so. If you need trained help to make the adjustments you can get it through your soil conservation district.

YOU AND YOUR NEIGHBORS can put conservation practices on the land faster and at lower cost by working together, sharing equipment, and exchanging ideas. It will also be easier to keep your practices working right.

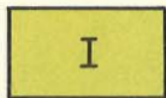
YOU, more than anyone else, hold the responsibility of making this plan a success. Its success, and its benefit to you, your community, and the Nation will depend largely on your interest and belief in, and practice of, soil and water conservation and good land use.

THE STANDARD LAND CAPABILITY CLASSIFICATION

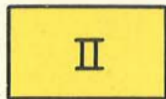
The first step in making a conservation farm plan is a careful survey of the land itself. Experienced soil scientists make a conservation survey of soils, slopes, erosion and other physical features. This information is plotted on an aerial photograph or map of the farm. Standard symbols are used to supply the details needed by professional men.

This information is reduced to a simple classification of land, according to its suitability for use and its need for special treatment. In this "Land Capability Classification" all land falls in eight broad classes. The first four are suitable for cultivation. The next three are limited to range or woodland use. The eighth class is suited only for wildlife, recreational or similar purpose. Each is shown by a standard color and/or Roman numeral.

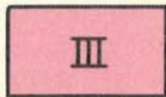
LAND SUITED FOR CULTIVATION:



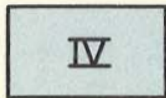
CLASS I: Very good land with little or no limitation in use. It is nearly level, deep and commonly without erosion. Some of it may need drainage, clearing or other conditioning treatment.



CLASS II: Good land with minor physical limitations, as gentle slopes, less deep soils or slight erosion. Choice in crops is reduced or special practices as water management, contour operations, cover cropping or longer rotations are needed.

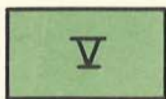


CLASS III: Moderately good land with major physical limitations, as relatively steep slopes, shallow soils or severe erosion. Choice in crops is further reduced and more protective measures are required, as terracing, strip cropping and careful water management.

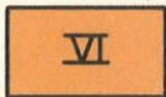


CLASS IV: Fairly good land that is best suited to pasture and hay but can be cultivated occasionally -- usually not for more than 1 year in 6. When plowed careful erosion prevention practices must be used.

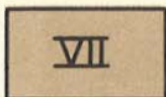
LAND NOT SUITED FOR CULTIVATION:



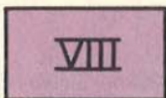
CLASS V: Land very good for grazing or forestry. It has slight or no physical limitations and needs only good management.



CLASS VI: Land good for grazing or forestry. It has minor physical limitations and needs some protective measures.



CLASS VII: Land moderately good for grazing or forestry. It has major physical limitations and needs extreme care to prevent erosion or destructive burning, or to overcome other hazards.

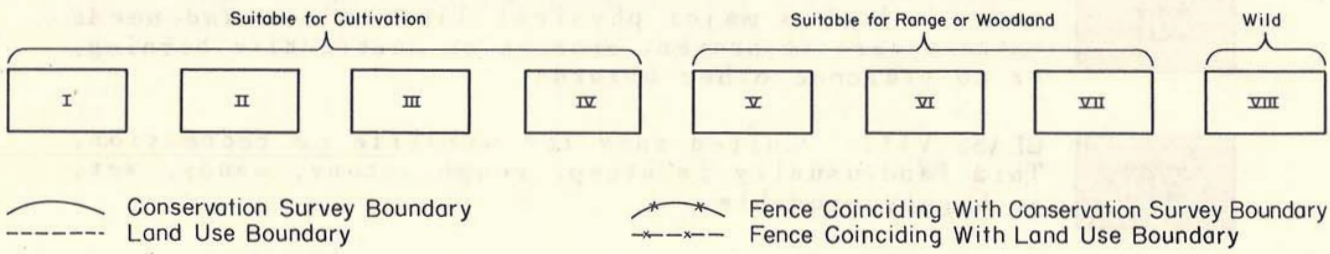


CLASS VIII: Suited only for wildlife or recreation. This land usually is steep, rough, stony, sandy, wet, or highly erodible.

LAND CAPABILITY LEGEND

CLASS	DESCRIPTION	Color
I	Best land with almost physical limitations	Lightest Yellow
II	Good land with slight physical limitations	Yellow
III	Good land with moderate physical limitations	Light Orange
IV	Land with moderate physical limitations	Orange
V	Land with moderate physical limitations	Light Red
VI	Land with moderate physical limitations	Red
VII	Land with moderate physical limitations	Dark Red
VIII	Wild	Dark Red

STANDARD LAND CAPABILITY CLASSES



Owner Ted Thompson

Ranch No. NV-SCD-20-17

Operator Same

Acreage 156

The soil found on your other ranches under this classification. It is deep, heavy textured, and underlain by a claypan. Water intake rate is slow, but water holding capacity is high. A prominent water table is usually present at the 5" - 20" zone. There is also a saline and alkali condition present.

GENERAL

These two tracts of land are adjacent to each other and are a part of Class VI₂ (colored orange) The soil under this classification is your ranch holdings. They are more commonly known as the Rock Fields and Rock Pasture ranches. A conservation plan for these ranches has been developed with you. Below is a description of the soils for these ranches followed by the plan itself.

CONSERVATION NEEDS SOILS

The conservation needs as were worked out with you for these pieces of Class I (colored green) This is the best land found on all of your land are as follows:

ranches. The soil here is deep, well drained, medium textured, and on nearly

level slopes. This soil has an average depth of four feet and a high water

holding capacity.

1. Drainage

2. Developing irrigation water

3. Land preparation

4. Cropping practices

5. Range and pasture management

Class IIe₂ (colored yellow) This soil is gravelly, medium textured,

and lays on gentle slopes. It has a moderate water holding capacity and

shows little to no signs of erosion.

1. Drainage

Drains should be constructed in fields 1, 2, 5, and 6. This will lower the water table in these fields and allow you to go in and work moderately deep (18" - 36") , medium textured, and on gentle slopes. It

has a low water holding capacity and is underlain by a claypan. There is a

will furnish engineering assistance for these drains at your request. saline and alkali condition present.

2. Developing irrigation water

Class IVw₁ (colored blue) The soil under this symbol is the same as

1. After the drains are constructed and in operation, some water

- 2 -

the soil found on your other ranches under this classification. It is deep, heavy textured, and underlain by a claypan. Water intake rate is slow, but water holding capacity is high. A prominent water table is usually present at the 5" - 20" zone. There is also a saline and alkali condition present.

As an irrigation design will be prepared for these fields.

Class VI_{S1} (colored orange) The soil under this classification is characterized by being moderately deep (18" - 36"), heavy textured, and underlain by a claypan. A saline and alkali condition is present. Water intake rate is slow. Plant growth here is affected by a fluctuating water table.

will be able to irrigate these fields enough to raise two or more crops of alfalfa.

CONSERVATION NEEDS

The conservation needs as were worked out with you for these pieces of land are as follows:

1. Drainage
2. Developing irrigation water
3. Land preparation
4. Cropping practices
5. Range and pasture management

3. Land Preparation

1. Drainage

Drains should be constructed in fields 1, 2, 5, and 6. This will lower the water table in these fields and allow you to go in and work the ground so as to establish higher producing hay crops. The district will furnish engineering assistance for these drains at your request.

supply ditches should not be over 400 feet apart for corrugation

2. Developing Irrigation Water

- A. After the drains are constructed and in operation, some water

should be available to spread on fields 1 and 5. In addition to this, flood waters should be used to irrigate fields 3 and 4 when it is available. When you get your well in operation, it will probably furnish enough water to irrigate fields 3 and 4. At that time an irrigation design will be prepared for these fields.

B. Since Fields 3 and 4 contain the best soils found on your ranch, they are suited to the production of alfalfa grass hay. Therefore, if your well will produce approximately 450 gallons per minute, you will be able to irrigate these fields enough to raise two or more crops of alfalfa a year.

C. To better distribute excess flood or drainage water, a spreader ditch system should be installed on Fields 1 and 5.

D. A small amount of water may be obtained if a pickup ditch is used to collect the water from the springs. This can be spread on either field 1 or 5.

3. Land Preparation

A. Leveling

To efficiently use what water you will have, Fields 3 and 4 should be leveled as much as is practical.

B. After leveling lateral supply ditches can be installed. These

supply ditches should not be over 400 feet apart for corrugation irrigation.

5. Range and

A. Fields 1 and 5 should be grazed in a rotation-deferred system

4. Cropping Practices fields on your other places.

A. The same cropping practices that were discussed in your Mau Ranch plan for your hayland will apply here also. be broken up with a brush beater or wheatland plow before better forage species

B. Below is a suggested mixture for Fields 3 and 4

Manchar smooth brome 6

C. After Alfalfa cover is eradicated and a good firm seed bed is prepared, the following mixture 12 pounds per acre.

C. If no irrigation water is available year after year for Fields 3 and 4, goats fescue might be tried at the rate of 10 pounds per acre. With this mixture alsike clover should be used at the rate of 2 pounds per acre.

D. Other principles of range and pasture management are discussed

D. For Fields 2 and 6, if drainage is successful, the following mixture is suggested.

Manchar smooth brome 6

Timothy 2

Mammoth red clover 4

Alsike clover 2

14 pounds per acre.

If they cannot be drained, then the mixture below is recommended.

Strawberry clover 2

Reed Canary 8

10 pounds per acre

5. Range and Pasture Management

A. Fields 1 and 5 should be grazed in a rotation-deferred system

with the range fields on your other places.

B. Existing cover on these fields will have to be broken up with a brush beater or wheatland plow before better forage species can be established.

C. After brush cover is eradicated and a good firm seed bed is prepared, the following mixture is suggested.

- Tall wheat grass 8
- Yellow sweet clover 5
- 13 pounds per acre

D. Other principles of range and pasture management are discussed in your Mau plan.