

567—73.21(109,455B) Types of inspections; when inspections are made.**73.21(1) Inspections of major dam structures.**

a. Inspection prior to construction. A field inspection shall be made by agency staff to determine the hazard class and verify the location and plan information upon receipt of an application for approval of construction or modification of a major dam structure under 567—Chapters 70 to 72.

b. Inspection during construction. Construction or modification of a major dam structure shall be supervised and inspected as provided in Chapter VI of department Bulletin No. 16.

c. Acceptance inspections. When construction of a major dam structure or modifications thereto is essentially completed, and as-built plans and a construction report have been submitted, the agency staff shall make a field inspection to determine whether visually observable features of the dam and appurtenant structures are consistent with the approved plans and the conditions of the agency approval order. The department shall thereafter issue a letter stating that the dam is accepted or that additional work is required for acceptance of construction. Filling of the impoundment shall not begin until the department has issued the letter of acceptance.

d. Periodic inspections after acceptance.

(1) *Inspections by department personnel.* All major structures shall be inspected by agency staff on a regular basis. The department staff shall notify the dam owner or agent before each inspection. High hazard structures shall be inspected at least once every two years. Major structures not classified as high hazard shall be inspected at least once every five years. Structures in poor condition shall be inspected more frequently until required repairs are completed. Each inspection shall assess the condition of the dam and appurtenant structures and the adequacy of operation and maintenance practices. If warranted, the inspection may include reevaluation of the ability of the dam and appurtenant structures to adequately withstand the hydraulic loadings and pass the appropriate design floods.

(2) *Maintenance inspections by owner.* The owner of a major structure shall be responsible for annual inspections and submission of written inspection reports as provided in Chapter VI of department Bulletin No. 16.

73.21(2) Inspections of dams other than major structures.

a. Preliminary site evaluation. Department personnel may evaluate the site of a proposed dam other than a major structure from maps and aerial photographs in lieu of a field inspection.

b. Inspection during construction. The applicant shall be responsible for providing supervision of construction by a person experienced in the type of construction involved. The applicant shall submit written notification of the name and business address of the person responsible for supervising construction.

c. Inspections after construction.

(1) Dams with approved operating plans shall be inspected by department personnel at least once every five years. Any problems noted shall be reported to the owner in writing.

(2) All other dams which exceed the thresholds in rule 567—71.3(455B) may be periodically inspected by department personnel to determine their condition. Any serious problems noted shall be reported to the owner in writing.

(3) Rescinded IAB 2/20/91, effective 3/27/91.

73.21(3) Preexisting dams. Preexisting dams are dams whose dimensions exceed the thresholds in rule 567—71.3(455B) but which were constructed and most recently modified before enactment of law requiring that approval be obtained for construction or modification.

a. Inventory and classification of certain preexisting dams. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in cooperation with the department engineering staff, under the authority of the National Dam Safety Act, P.L. 92-367, have compiled an inventory of all known dams in Iowa having a permanent storage capacity in excess of 50 acre-feet. The inventory process included assignment of hazard classifications consistent with the hazard classifications in 567—subrule 72.3(2).

b. Inspection of preexisting dams.

(1) *Major structures.* Preexisting dams which are on the National Dam Safety Inventory and have dimensions which exceed the thresholds for major structures as defined in 567—Chapter 70 will be inspected by department personnel as provided in 73.21(1)“d.”

(2) *Other preexisting dams.* Preexisting dams not classified as major structures are subject to inspection in the circumstances described in 73.23(1) to 73.23(3).