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RECLAMATION

# **Facilities Instructions, Standards, and Techniques - Volume 4-1A**

## **Maintenance Scheduling for Mechanical Equipment**

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# **Facilities Instructions, Standards, and Techniques - Volume 4-1A**

## **Maintenance Scheduling for Mechanical Equipment**

Prepared by

**Power Resources Office  
Technical Service Center  
Regions**

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Power Resources Office  
Denver, Colorado

Revision 3.0

## **Mission Statements**

The U.S. Department of the Interior protects and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage; provides scientific and other information about those resources; honors its trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and affiliated Island Communities.

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

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## Codes and Standards

Reference the associated FIST Volume.

## Reclamation Standards and Documents

FAC 01-04	Review of Operation and Maintenance Program Examination of Associated Facilities (Facilities Other Than High- and Significant-Hazard Potential Dams)
FAC 01-07	Review/Examination Program for High and Significant Hazard Dams
FAC 04-01	Power Review of Operation and Maintenance (PRO&M) Program
FAC 04-14	Power Facilities Technical Documents
FIST 2-3	Mechanical Maintenance for Mechanical and Digital Governors for Hydroelectric Units
FIST 2-6	Maintenance of Auxiliary Mechanical Equipment
FIST 2-8	Inspection of Steel Penstocks and Pressure Conduits
FIST 2-9	Inspection of Unfired Pressure Vessels
FIST 4-1B	Maintenance Schedules for Electrical Equipment
RCD 03-03	Request for Deviation from a Reclamation Manual Requirement and Approval or Disapproval of the Request
RSHS	Reclamation Safety and Health Standards

## Reclamation Forms

POM: [POM Forms - All Documents](#)

POM-186, Penstock Inspection Checklist

POM-192, Governor Inspection Report

POM-226, FIST Revision Request

POM-300, FIST Variance Form

POM-400, Engine Generator Operation and Testing Log

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

A	amps
AC	alternating current
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
AWG	American Wire Gauge
CAL/OSHA	California Occupational Safety and Health Regulations
CBM	condition-based maintenance
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CMMS	computerized maintenance management system
CO2	carbon dioxide
DC	direct current
EPSS	emergency power supply systems
FAC	Project Planning and Facility Operations, Maintenance, and Rehabilitation (of Reclamation Manual)
FIST	Facilities Instructions, Standards, and Techniques
HECP	Hazardous Energy Control Program
Hz	hertz
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
ISO	International Standards Organization
JHA	job hazard analysis
kVA	kilovolt ampere
LVDT	linear variable differential transformer
MAWP	maximum allowable working pressure
MLDT	magnetostriuctive linear displacement transducer
mV	millivolts
NDE	nondestructive examination
NDT	Nondestructive Testing
NERC	North American Electric Reliability Corporation
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association

O&M	operation and maintenance
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PEB	Power Equipment Bulletins
PLC	programmable logic controller
PM	preventive maintenance
PMG	permanent magnet generator
PO&M	power operation and maintenance
ppm	parts per million
PRO	Power Resources Office
psi	pounds per square
RCD	Records Management (of Reclamation Manual)
RM D&S	Reclamation Manual Directive and Standard
pvc	polyvinyl chloride
RCM	reliability-centered maintenance
Reclamation	Bureau of Reclamation
rms	root mean square
rpm	rotations per minute
RPVOT	Rotating Pressure Vessel Oxidation Test
RSHS	Reclamation Safety and Health Standards
SNL	speed-no-load
SSG	speed signal generator
SSI	speed stability index
SWL	safe working load
TAN	total acid number
TSC	Technical Services Center
UNC	unified coarse thread
V	volt
VDC	volts direct current
WECC	Western Electricity Coordinating Council
WISHA	Washington Industrial Safety and Health Administration

# **Symbols**

°F            degree Fahrenheit  
%            percent

# 1.0 Introduction

The Bureau of Reclamation operates and maintains hydroelectric powerplants, switchyards, pumping plants, water delivery equipment and associated facilities in the 17 western United States. These facilities house complex electrical and mechanical equipment that must be kept operational because they are critical to the electric power and water delivery systems relied on by many. FIST are technical documents that provide criteria and procedures that should be utilized by the offices involved in managing Reclamation facilities and assets.

This document establishes standard technical practices to ensure the safe, reliable, economic and efficient O&M of Federal facilities by keeping related assets in good condition and ultimately protecting Federal investments. These technical practices provide a sufficient level of detail to ensure consistent application while providing flexibility for the use of innovative techniques and approaches. This document was developed with input from staff in Reclamation's Denver, regional, and area offices.

## 1.1 Purpose and Scope

This document is intended to promote uniformity in the manner that assets are managed, documented, and coordinated, and may be utilized by transferred facilities and other entities as appropriate. It establishes consistent procedures, minimum standards and O&M criteria for equipment and systems owned and operated by Reclamation. Other technical documents may provide additional electrical and mechanical maintenance information for the equipment or systems discussed in this document.

O&M requirements are based on industry standards and experience. Maintenance requirements vary based on equipment condition and past performance, and sound engineering practices and maintenance management should be employed for special circumstances. Manufacturer recommendations and instructions should be consulted for additional maintenance that may be required beyond what is stated in this manual.

This volume includes standards, practices, procedures, and advice on day-to-day operation, maintenance, and testing of mechanical equipment in Reclamation facilities.

## 1.2 Maintenance and Testing of Critical Assets

**Critical Assets.** Critical equipment or any system, asset, or component directly involved in the delivery of water or power whose failure could cause one or more of the following:

- (1) a loss of control of water conveyance;
- (2) load reduction or shutdown of power generation;

- (3) a loss or reduction of transmission capability or capacity;
- (4) serious personnel injury; and/or
- (5) an environmental hazard resulting in harm to the public, environment, or damage to public property.

## 1.3 Reclamation Standard Practices

FIST manuals are designed to provide guidance for maintenance and testing on equipment in Reclamation's facilities. There may be multiple ways to accomplish tasks outlined in this document. Facilities may exercise discretion as to how to accomplish certain tasks based on equipment configurations and available resources.

Reclamation's regions, PRO, and TSC agree that certain practices are required to be consistent across all Reclamation facilities. Mandatory FIST procedures, practices, and schedules that appear in **{Red, bold, and bracketed}** or **[Black, bold, and bracketed]** text are considered Reclamation requirements for the O&M of equipment in power facilities. RM D&S FAC 04-14, Power Facilities Technical Documents, describes the responsibilities required by text designations: **{Red, bold, and bracketed}**, **[Black, bold, and bracketed]**, and plain text, within this technical document.

Refer to RM D&S FAC 04-14 for more details concerning technical documents.

## 1.4 Manufacturer Recommendations

The information in this document is based on manufacturers' documentation and historic Reclamation practices. Due to the differences in equipment designs, owner's manuals and manufacturer's recommended maintenance should be consulted when developing job plans. Not following the manufacturer's guidance may void the warranty of new equipment. If there is a discrepancy between the FIST and the manufacturer's recommendations, the job plan must use the more stringent practice unless there is a reason that a less restrictive maintenance practice is warranted. Use of a less restrictive maintenance practice must be approved as outlined in RM D&S FAC 04-14 by either a deviation or a variance. A deviation maybe granted in accordance with RCD 03-03 and variances are approved in accordance with FAC 04-14 using POM Form 300.

## 1.5 FIST Revision Requests

The FIST Revision Request Form, POM-226, is used to request changes to a FIST document. The request will include a summary of the recommended changes and a basis for the revision or new FIST. These forms will be submitted to the Manager, PRO. The PRO Manager will keep a list of Revision Requests for each FIST and include these in the next scheduled revision unless the change is prioritized sooner.

## 1.6 Mechanical Database

The TSC Mechanical Equipment Group created and maintains a Mechanical Equipment Database. All Reclamation employees have access to the database, which contains test data, operating data, and general information about the following:

- 1) Turbines
- 2) Governors
- 3) Gates and valves
- 4) Pressure vessels
- 5) Penstocks
- 6) Elevators
- 7) Hoists
- 8) Cranes

The database:

- 1) Provides visibility of other Reclamation facilities with similar equipment; i.e., find all Reclamation facilities with Obermeyer Gates.
- 2) Is a critical tool for facility reviewers, i.e., reviewers can obtain printable forms from the database website for each asset being reviewed. The form can be taken to the site and used to compare and update information.
- 3) Tracks equipment testing frequencies and critical data comparison. For example, governor alignment results can be compared to the previous governor alignment results. An increase in operating pressures or opening/closing times can indicate gate repairs are required.
- 4) Provides updated testing and inspection dates for gates, valves, pressure vessels, and penstocks for mechanical inspectors/reviewers to use during Power Reviews and Dam Safety CR exams.

When tests and alignments, as outlined in FIST 4-1A or the database, are completed, facilities or region personnel should submit the recorded data to the Mechanical Equipment Group ([bordromechequipdb@usbr.gov](mailto:bordromechequipdb@usbr.gov)). A service agreement is established with TSC to update the database and keep it accurate. The PRO&M review programs use this database to ensure tests and alignment are up to date and are being tracked.

The link to the Mechanical Equipment Database is: <https://mechdb.usbr.gov/MechDB/>.

## **1.7 Development of Maintenance Tables**

Several FIST volumes that will have maintenance table within this document are currently under revision. To maintain access to the information contained within FIST 4-1A, revision published 2009, that document has been copied into the Appendix of this document. As new or revised FIST documents are published, the information corresponding in the Appendix will be deleted and revised maintenance tables will be inserted into the body of this document. Once all FIST volumes that contain information that is currently in the Appendix of this document, the Appendix will contain no information and will be deleted resulting in this document containing only maintenance tables.

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## 2.0 Mechanical Maintenance of Mechanical and Digital Governors for Hydroelectric Units

The following maintenance tables are in reference to the tasks outlined in FIST 2-3, Mechanical Maintenance of Mechanical and Digital Governors for Hydroelectric Units.

### 2.1 Maintenance Schedule for Governors – General

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Wicket gate timing <b>[Perform wicket gate timing check/adjustment.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[3 years]</b>  Monitored: <b>[6 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Sections 7.2 and 8.2
Wicket gate timing <b>[Re-evaluate the safe closure rate.]</b>	Non-periodic: <b>[When a unit is uprated, following runner replacement, when penstock is modified (i.e. butterfly valve install), or when the penstock is degraded]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 6.1
Servomotors, Shift Ring, and Wicket Gate Linkage <b>[Verify servomotor cushioning.]</b>	<b>[6 Years]</b>	
Main and auxiliary distributing valves <b>[Check that the main-valve plunger is free.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.8
Main and auxiliary distributing valves <b>[Completely disassemble the main and auxiliary valves. Remove opening, closing, and pressure plungers and remove all rust spots and oil varnish with a fine-grade emery cloth (320 to 500) and crocus cloth. Check the condition of the main distributing valve plunger's piston rings and replace as required.]</b>	Non-periodic: <b>[When valves do not operate as intended]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.8

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Miscellaneous valves <b>[Disassemble valves and remove all rust spots and oil varnish with a fine-grade emery cloth (320 to 500) and crocus cloth.]</b>	Non-periodic: <b>[When valves do not operate as intended]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.9
Links and pins <b>[Lubricate links and pivot pins with a light machine oil.]</b>	<b>[Quarterly]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.11
<i>Links and pins</i> <b>[Check links and pins for wear or binding.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.11
Hydraulic system <b>[Check the oil level in the sump and the actuator tank and add oil or charge the pressure tank with air as required.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Weekly]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-3, Section 8.13; FIST 2-4, Section 5
Hydraulic system <b>[Shift lead &amp; lag pumps to equalize run time.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Monthly]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	
Hydraulic system <b>[Switch the strainers and clean or replace the off-line filter element.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Annually]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-3, Section 8.13
Hydraulic system <b>[Take an oil sample from the governor and send to a lab for analysis.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Annually]</b>  Monitored: <b>[6 Years]</b>  Non-Periodic: <b>[Before scheduled Outage]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.13; FIST 2-4, Section 5.1.1.3

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Hydraulic system <b>[Remove the governor actuator float and inspect for any cracks near the threaded connection to the float arm. Inspect using either dye penetrant or magnetic particle non-destructive testing methods.]</b>	<b>[6 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.13
Oil Maintenance <b>[Perform oil maintenance requirements.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[3 years]</b>  Monitored: <b>[Oil sample analysis indicates oil maintenance is required.]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 10; FIST 2-4, Section 5
Generator air brake valve <b>[Check the manual and solenoid operation of the valve. Lubricate pivot points with light machine oil.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.14
Generator air brake valve <b>[Disassemble the valve and remove all rust spots with a fine-grade emery cloth (320 to 500) and crocus cloth. Lap the valve seats if required.]</b>	<b>[6 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.14
Actuator tank <b>[Calibrate pressure switches; ensure setpoints are per equipment design requirements.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[6 years]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-3, Section 8.19; FIST 2-9 Section 5.6
Actuator tank <b>[Calibrate level switches; ensure setpoints are set per equipment design requirements.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[6 years]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-3, Section 8.19

## 2.2 Maintenance Schedule for Mechanical Governors

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Mechanical Governors <b>[Verify and adjust mechanical actuator hand alignment.]</b>	<b>[6 years]</b> Non-periodic <b>[After major maintenance prior to putting the unit into service]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 4.3.1 & 4.3.2
Permanent droop <b>[Verify and adjust permanent droop.]</b>	<b>[6 years]</b> Non-periodic: <b>[After major maintenance prior to putting the unit into service]</b>  <b>[If any changes in governor behavior that require equipment upgrades or replacement, report per NERC MOD 27]</b>	FIST 2-3, Sections 7.4 and 8.2
Permanent droop <b>{Verify governor droop setting at the cabinet dial for each generating unit is set to greater than or equal to 3% but less than or equal to 5%, unless a special circumstance exists.}</b>	<b>[Semi-Annually]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 7.4
Speed-no-load calibration <b>[Verify and adjust speed-no-load calibration.]</b>	<b>[6 years]</b> Non-periodic: <b>[After major maintenance prior to putting the unit into service]</b>	FIST 2-3, Sections 7.5 and 8.2

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Adjust dashpot <b>[Verify and adjust the dashpot.]</b>	<b>[6 years]</b> Non-periodic: <b>[After major maintenance prior to putting the unit into service]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 7.6 and 8.2
Check and adjust dither <b>[Verify and adjust the dither.]</b>	<b>[6 years]</b> Non-periodic: <b>[After major maintenance prior to putting the unit into service]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 7.7 and 8.2
Normal operations check <b>[Perform normal operations check.]</b>	<b>[6 years]</b> Non-periodic: <b>[After major maintenance prior to putting the unit into service]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 7.8 and 8.2
Governor ball head (Woodward vibrator type) <b>[Oil ball-head motor, check for vibration, and overhaul if necessary.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Weekly]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-3, Section 8.3
Governor ball head (Woodward vibrator type) <b>[Clean, inspect, and refurbish governor ball head as necessary.]</b>	<b>[6 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.3
Governor ball head (Woodward strap-suspended type) <b>[Clean, inspect, and refurbish governor ball head as necessary.]</b>	<b>[6 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.4
Governor ball head (Woodward strap-suspended type) <b>[Check the oil in the dashpot, add as needed.]</b>	<b>[Quarterly]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.4

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Governor ball head (Pelton) <b>[Observe the ball head and the ball-head motor to check for any unusual vibration or noise.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Annually]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-3, Section 8.5
Woodward oil motor vibrator <b>[Check that the oil motor vibrator is providing a 0.006- to 0.009-inch oscillation of the main valve and that the motor is turning in the range of 400 to 600 RPM (7 to 10 Hz).]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Annually]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-3, Section 8.6
Pilot valve <b>[Disassemble the pilot valve and remove all rust spots and oil varnish with a fine-grade emery cloth (320 to 500) and crocus cloth.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.7
Dashpot <b>[Check the dashpot oil level and add dashpot oil if necessary.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.10
Dashpot <b>[Disassemble and clean the plungers.]</b>	Non-periodic: <b>[If tests indicate a problem]</b>	FIST 2-3, Sections 7.0 and 8.10
Restoring cable <b>[Lubricate restoring-cable sheaves and rod ends at the servomotor connection.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.12
Restoring cable <b>[Disassemble sheaves and inspect sheaves and cable.]</b>	Non-periodic: <b>[When operation is not as intended]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.12
Permanent magnet generator or speed signal generator <b>[Inspect the speed switches and drive gears for wear. Lubricate pivot pins and check speed switch bearings.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Sections 7.3, 8.15

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
<p>Permanent magnet generator or speed signal generator</p> <p><b>[Using an insulation resistance test, check the insulation between the PMG or SSG housing and the supporting frame by measuring the resistance from the housing to ground. Replace or repair the insulating gasket as required.]</b></p>	<p>Unmonitored: <b>[6 years]</b></p> <p>Monitored: No periodic maintenance required</p>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.15
<p>Permanent magnet generator or speed signal generator</p> <p><b>[Check the voltage output of the PMG. If the voltage output is less than 80% or more than 110% of the rated voltage perform the steps identified in FIST 2-3.]</b></p>	<p>Unmonitored: <b>[3 years]</b></p> <p>Monitored: No periodic maintenance required</p>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.15
<p>Permanent magnet generator or speed signal generator</p> <p><b>[Check the setting and operation of the speed switches.]</b></p>	<p><b>[6 years]</b></p>	FIST 2-3, Sections 7.3, 8.15
<p>Permanent magnet generator or speed signal generator</p> <p><b>[Replace the main drive bearings of the PMG or SSG.]</b></p>	<p>Unmonitored: <b>[6 years]</b></p> <p>Monitored: No periodic maintenance required</p>	FIST 2-3, Sections 7.3, 8.15
<p>Position and limit switches</p> <p><b>[Check the operation and settings of the gate limit, the speed-changer position, and the gate-position switches and adjust as required. Clean the contacts as required. Check the drive gears for wear and proper meshing. Check annunciation where applicable.]</b></p>	<p><b>[6 years]</b></p>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.16
<p>Shutdown solenoids</p> <p><b>[Check the operation of the solenoids for binding or sticking when tripped and reset. Check the settings to ensure that the complete shutdown solenoid closes the wicket gates completely and the partial shutdown solenoid brings the gates to the SNL setting. When the solenoids are reset, make sure that the linkage does not prevent the gates from going to 100%.]</b></p>	<p><b>[3 years]</b></p>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.17

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Shutdown Solenoids <b>[Inspect the solenoid for any signs of overheating or other damage. Check the condition of electrical connections and auxiliary contacts.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.17
Speed changer, gate limit motors, and remote position indicators <b>[Operate motors and check for excessive vibration or noise. Replace bearings as required. Check gears for wear and proper meshing. Check the clutch adjustment.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.18
Speed changer, gate limit motors, and remote position indicators <b>[Check electrical connections and motor brushes. Check the operation of the position indicators for any sticking or binding and check the correlation between the transmitter and receiver.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.18
Governor inspection report <b>[Complete POM Form 192 or similar inspection report to record data obtained during the inspection.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 8.20

## 2.3 Maintenance Schedule for Digital Governors

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Governor tests and adjustments <b>[Check speed-droop calibration.]</b>	<b>[6 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 9.3
Governor tests and adjustments <b>[Check emergency shutdown of wicket gates.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 9.3
Feedback Transducers <b>[Check calibration of main distributing valve positions transducers (typically type LVDT) and wicket gate position transducers (typically type MLDT).]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[6 years]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-3, Section 9.7
Feedback Transducers <b>[Check main distributing valve and wicket gate position transducers for free movement and binding.]</b>	<b>[6 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 9.7
Feedback Transducers <b>[Check calibration of main distributing valve positions transducers (typically type LVDT) and wicket gate position transducers (typically type MLDT).]</b>	Non-periodic: <b>[After reinstalling main distributing valve]</b>	
Speed signal generator <b>[Using an insulation resistance test, check the insulation SSG housing and the supporting frame by measuring the resistance from the housing to ground. Replace or repair the insulating gasket as required.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[6 years]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-3, Section 9.10
Speed signal generator <b>[Check the air-gap distance between the speed-sensing transducer and the toothed wheel to ensure it is within the manufacturer's specification.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[3 years]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-3, Section 9.10
Electrical Cabinet <b>[Visually inspect the governor electrical cabinet.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 9.12

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Electrical Cabinet <b>[Inspect equipment air filters and replace as necessary. Verify louvers and vents are not blocked or clogged.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 9.12
Controller (PLC) <b>[Replace internal battery.]</b>	Non-periodic: <b>[As required]</b>	FIST 2-3, Section 9.13

## **3.0 Lubrication of Powerplant Equipment**

The following maintenance tables are in reference to the tasks outlined in FIST 2-4, Lubrication of Powerplant Equipment.

### **3.1 Inspection Checklist – Lubrication**

Currently under revision, see existing tasks in Appendix.

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## 4.0 Maintenance of Auxiliary Mechanical Equipment

The following maintenance tables are in reference to the tasks outlined in FIST 2-6, Maintenance of Auxiliary Mechanical Equipment.

The maintenance schedule below contains inspections for auxiliary piping systems with critical equipment as defined in Section 1.2 of this document.

### 4.1 Maintenance Schedule for Auxiliary Piping Systems

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Piping <b>[Visually inspect exterior of piping for leaks and/or corrosion.]</b>	<b>[2 years]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 2.1 & 2.11
Hangers and Supports <b>[Visually inspect for cracks or damage, loose anchor points or fasteners and isolators in piping systems.]</b>	<b>[2 years]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 2.11
Interior of Piping <b>[Perform a quantitative piping system health assessment (e.g., ultrasonic testing) of all fluid containing components.]</b>	Non-periodic: <b>[As required per issues with piping or suspected degradation]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 2.1 & 2.11
Fittings <b>[Visually inspect threaded, welded, and flanged fittings for leaks and/or corrosion.]</b>	<b>[2 Years]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 2.1 & 2.11
Flexible Fittings <b>[Visually inspect the flexible components for deterioration.]</b>	<b>[2 Years]</b>	
Strainers <b>[Clean strainers as necessary to clear plugging or fouling.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[2 years]</b>  Monitored: <b>[6 years]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 2.4, 2.5, & 2.11

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Valves <b>[Visually inspect valves.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[2 Years]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-6, Section 2.9 & 2.11
Valves <b>[Exercise all auxiliary piping system valves by operating through full range of motion several times.]</b>	<b>[2 years or Align with Critical Asset Outage]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 2.9 & 2.11
Pressure-Regulating and Pressure-Reducing Valves <b>[Inspect pressure-regulating and pressure-reducing valves for operation and setting.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Annual]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-6, Section 2.9 & 2.11

## 4.2 Maintenance Schedule for General Maintenance for All Air Compressor Types

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Foundation <b>[Inspection - Check concrete for cracks and spalling. Check foundation with level for settling.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5
Frame <b>[Inspection - Examine metal for corrosion and cracks. Clean and paint as required.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5
Compressor Drive <b>[Check V-belts for slippage, chains for looseness, and shaft couplings for excessive runout or vibration. Dress, tighten, or replace V-belts as required. Check shaft couplings for excessive wear; tighten and lubricate as required.]</b>	<b>[Quarterly]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5
Compressor Drive <b>[Check for excessive runout of direct-coupled shafts using dial indicator; check shaft alignment if runout is excessive.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[3 Years]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5
Cooling System <b>[Check flow of water or coolant through compressor and aftercooler. Check for accumulation of dirt or lint on cooling fins of air-cooled compressors and radiators of water-cooled compressors; check for leaks; clean as necessary.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Quarterly]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5
Cooling System <b>[Check for corrosion and scale buildup and clean or flush as required.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[3 Years]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Air Intake <b>[Inspection and Maintenance - Check condition of filter. Replace as required. Check air intake for obstructions.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Quarterly]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-6 Section 3.4 & 3.5
Piping and Valves <b>[Check piping and valves for corrosion. Clean and repaint, or replace as required.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 2.1, 2.11 & 3.5
Valves <b>[Repack and reseat, or replace valves as required.]</b>	Non-periodic: <b>[Excessive leakage or as required]</b>	
Separators Inspection and Maintenance - Check for leaks. Disassemble and check for internal corrosion and scale buildup. Clean as required.	Non-periodic: As required	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5
Traps <b>[Operate manual drains.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Monthly]</b>  Monitored: <b>No periodic maintenance required</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5
Traps <b>[Check automatic traps for leaks and proper operation. Clean strainer and check for corrosion or scale buildup.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5
Dryers <b>[Replace dryer elements on deliquescent type dryers as necessary. Check operation of refrigerated and desiccant type units.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Annually]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5
Pressure-Regulating Valves <b>[Check operation and verify that valves are providing correct pressure downstream from valve.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Pressure Gauges <b>[Check operation of each gauge. Look for a loose or stuck pointer. If there is any doubt about the accuracy of a gauge, remove it and check its calibration or replace it with a new gauge.]</b>	<b>[Weekly]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 2.11
Pressure Gauges <b>[Remove and calibrate pressure gauges on the air compressor.]</b>	<b>[2 Years]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 2.11
Pressure and Temperature Switches <b>[Verify that pressure switches cut in and out at proper pressures. Check settings of temperature switches.]</b>	<b>[Monthly]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5
Pressure and Temperature Switches <b>[Check pressure and temperature switch calibration and set points.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5
Bearings <b>[Check anti-friction bearing for excessive vibration or noise and for adequate lubrication.]</b>	<b>[Quarterly]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5
Bearings Disassemble compressor and inspect condition of all bushings and Babbitt-lined bearings. Repair or replace as required.	Non-periodic: As required	FIST 2-6 Section 3.5
Compressor Lubrication Draw and send an oil sample to the compressor manufacturer or third-party analysis service to ensure results are back prior to outage.	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-4, Section 5
Compressor Lubrication <b>[Replace oil]</b>	Non-periodic: <b>[Based on hours of operation or analysis results]</b>	
Pressure Relief Valves on Air Compressors <b>[Inspect the condition of the safety devices which shall include a check for leaks, proper sealing, tight bolting, clean surfaces, rust, damage, and drain clogs.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 2-9

## 4.3 Maintenance Schedule for Reciprocating Compressors

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Lubrication <b>[Check that oil or grease cups are full and fill as necessary. Check oil feed rate to cylinder. Check forced oil systems for proper operation. Note any leaks and repair if necessary. Ensure correct lubricant is used.]</b>	<b>[Monthly]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.6
Lubrication <b>[Ensure crank case oil and/or oil reservoir is filled to the proper level.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Monthly]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	
Lubrication <b>[Clean oil or grease cups and piping.]</b>	Non-periodic: As required	FIST 2-6 Section 3.6
Packing Gland <b>[Check for excessive leakage and for scoring on piston rod. Adjust or replace packing as necessary.]</b>	<b>[Monthly]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.6
Unloader <b>[Inspection - Check that the unloader is functioning correctly, allowing the compressor to reach operating speed before loading followed by unloading at the proper pressure.]</b>	<b>[Monthly]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.6
Unloader <b>[Inspect valves and air lines for leaks. Examine solenoid for deteriorated insulation.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.6
Unloader <b>[Lap or replace valves and/or replace solenoids.]</b>	Non-periodic: <b>[When unloading becomes unsatisfactory]</b>	
Crosshead <b>[Check for proper lubrication. Check bearing shoes for scoring, wear and fit to crosshead. Shim shoes if necessary to obtain proper fit. Check pin and bushing for wear and replace or refit as required.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.6

## 4.4 Maintenance Schedule for Rotary Screw Air Compressors

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Air End <b>[Visually inspect rotors and bearings for wear. Replace if necessary or if compressor efficiency has noticeably declined.]</b>	Non-periodic: As required	FIST 2-6 Section 3.7
Oil Reservoir <b>[Drain condensation from bottom of oil reservoir.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Monthly]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-6 Section 3.4 & 3.7
Oil Separator <b>[Visually inspect condition of separator element. Service or replace as necessary.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Annually]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-6 Section 3.4 & 3.7
Oil Filter <b>[Clean or replace as required.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 3.7
Lubrication <b>[Check level of lubricant and add if required.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Weekly]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	

## 4.5 Maintenance Schedule for Heating, Ventilating, and Air-Conditioning (HVAC) Systems

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Fans <b>[Visually and audibly inspect fans for excessive vibration and/or noise. Check and clean fan blades as necessary. Replace bearings or balance as necessary.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[2 Years]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-6, Section 4.0 & 4.1
Fans <b>[Lubricate fan motor bearings.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Semi-Annually]</b>  Monitored: <b>[2 Years]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 4.0 & 4.1
Belts and Pulleys <b>[Check belts for condition, tension, and alignment. Adjust or replace as necessary. Check for wear on pulleys and replace as required.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 4.0 & 4.1
Filters <b>[Visually inspect filters. Clean or replace if necessary.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Semi-Annually]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-6, Section 4.0 & 4.1
Cooling or Heating Coils <b>[Visually inspect heating or cooling coils for leaks. Clean as necessary. Remove cleanout plug in strainer and flush out. Replace strainer gasket if necessary.]</b>	<b>[2 years]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 4.0 & 4.1
Intake, Louvers and Screens <b>[Clean intake, louvers and screens as necessary. Ensure the areas near intakes are free from debris or contaminants.]</b>	<b>[2 years]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 4.0 & 4.1
Dampers <b>[Visually inspect dampers for freedom of motion. Lubricate bearing points as necessary.]</b>	<b>[2 years]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 4.0 & 4.1

## 4.6 Inspection Checklist – Engine Generator Sets

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
EPSS Components, which include fuel, lubrication system, cooling system, exhaust system, battery system, electrical system, prime mover, and generator <b>[Inspection and Maintenance – Inspect and perform maintenance for all EPSS components per manufacturer's recommendations or POM Form 400.]</b>	<b>[Follow Manufacturer's recommendations or POM Form 400]</b>	POM Form 400 FIST 2-6, Section 5.0
Generator Set Battery <b>[Inspection - Visually inspect engine generator set battery. Check for signs of damage, leakage or other abnormalities.]</b>	<b>[Weekly]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 5.0
Engine Generator Set Operation <b>EPSS Level 1</b> <b>{Operation – *Exercise for a minimum of 30 minutes (including automatic cold start) by:</b> <b>(1) Running diesel-fueled generators at operating temperature conditions and at not less than 30% of nameplate kW rating; or</b> <b>(2) Running diesel-fueled generators by loading the system to maintain the minimum exhaust gas temperatures as recommended by the manufacturer; or</b> <b>(3) Running spark-ignited generators under available load.}</b>	<b>**{Monthly}</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 5.0
Engine Generator Set <b>EPSS Level 2 or Standby Generator Sets</b> <b>[Operation – *Exercise for a minimum of 30 minutes (including automatic cold start) by:</b> <b>(1) Running diesel-fueled generators at operating temperature conditions and at not less than 30% of nameplate kW rating; or</b> <b>(2) Running diesel-fueled generators by loading the system to maintain the minimum exhaust gas temperatures as recommended by the manufacturer; or</b> <b>(3) Running spark-ignited generators under available load.]</b>	<b>**[Monthly]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 5.0

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Transfer Switch <b>[Maintenance – Operate transfer switch electrically in both directions.]</b>	<b>[Monthly]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 5.0
Circuit Breakers <b>[Maintenance – Manually exercise circuit breakers.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 5.0
Engine Generator Set <b>EPSS Level 1</b> <b>{Test – Operate at loads defined for the assigned class duration (not less than 30% of nameplate kW rating) and a minimum of 4 hours by operating at least one transfer switch test function, then by operating the test function of all remaining transfer switches.}</b>	<b>{3 Years}</b>	FIST 2-6, Section 5.0

\* For diesel-fueled generators, load exercising at normal operating temperature prevents accumulation of carbon particles, unburned fuel, lube oil, condensed water, and acids in the exhaust system and other engine problems that can occur with unloaded exercising.

\*\* Many facilities start and run the engine generator set weekly, per manufacturers' recommendations.

## 4.7 Inspection Checklist – Auxiliary Pumps

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
<b>[Verify pump is operating per design specifications.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Weekly]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-6 Section 6.3.1
<b>[Inspect and maintain pump and motor assembly.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 6.3.2

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Tasks	Frequency	Reference
<b>[Maintain bearings.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Based on manufacture recommended hours of operation]<sup>1</sup></b>  Monitored: <b>[Based on data trend and analysis]<sup>1</sup></b>	FIST 2-6 Section 6.2.1 and 6.3.2
<b>[Inspect and maintain couplings.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 6.3.2
<b>[Test or replace relief valves on positive displacement pumps.]</b>	<b>[6 years]</b>	FIST 2-6 Section 6.3.2

<sup>1</sup> Maintenance of auxiliary pumps supporting critical equipment (e.g. hydroelectric generator) should align with an outage.

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## 5.0 Inspection of Steel Penstocks and Pressure Conduits

The following maintenance tables are in reference to the tasks outlined in FIST 2-8, Inspection of Steel Penstocks and Pressure Conduits.

Note: Monitoring opportunities exist for this equipment, but they do not extend the frequency of inspection and should be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Basic Inspection-Exterior <b>[Visually inspect exterior components for coating and structural damage.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 2-8 Section 3.0, 4.0 FIST 4-5 Section 4.7 POM Form 186
Basic Interior Inspection - <b>[Visually inspect interior components for lining and structural damage.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-8 Section 3.0 & 4.0 FIST 4-5 Section 4.7 POM Form 186
Comprehensive Exterior and Interior Inspection - <b>[Complete a detailed exterior and interior inspection of the components and document the ultrasonic thickness measurements and the stress analysis in a report.]</b>	<b>[10 years]</b>	FIST 2-8 Section 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0 FIST 4-5 Section 4.7 POM Form 186
Critical Bolted Connections – <b>[Identify, calculate preload, and maintain a record of assembly of each critical bolted connection.]</b>	Non-periodic: As required	FIST 2-12 Section 2.7.4.1
Critical Bolted Connection – <b>[New fasteners used in a critical bolted connection shall be certified for material specifications and a record maintained.]</b>	Non-periodic: As required	FIST 2-12 Section 2.7.4.1

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## 6.0 Inspection of Unfired Pressure Vessels

The following maintenance tables are in reference to the tasks outlined in FIST 2-9, Inspection of Unfired Pressure Vessels.

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
<b>[Open receiver drain valve and blow down until fluid is removed from tank. Check drain valve for leaks.]</b>	Unmonitored: Weekly	FIST 2-9 Section 4.6
	Monitored: <b>[6 months]</b>	
<b>[Inspect the exterior of the pressure vessel.]</b>	<b>[Annual]</b>	FIST 2-9 Section 4.3.3, 5.0 & 6.0
<b>[Visually inspect the condition of the safety devices.]</b>	<b>[Annual]</b>	FIST 2-9 Section 5.2
<b>[Calibrate or replace pressure gauges; ensure accuracy is per design specifications.]</b>	<b>[2 years]</b>	FIST 2-9 Section 6.2
<b>[Calibrate or replace pressure and temperature switches; ensure accuracy and setpoints are per design specifications.]</b>	See Reference	FIST 2-9 Section 5.6 FIST 4-1B Section 14
<b>[Inspect rupture disks.]</b>	<b>[6 years]</b>	FIST 2-9 Section 5.5
<b>{Replace all pressure relief valves with new certified units or existing operationally tested pressure relief valves.}</b>	<b>{6 years}<sup>1</sup></b>	FIST 2-9 Section 5.4
<b>{Inspect and certify each pressure vessel.}</b>	<b>{6 years}<sup>1</sup></b>	FIST 2-9 Section 4.1.2
<b>[Check for freedom-of-operation if seat leakage is found on a pressure relief valve, or if the owner has a concern about the valve being stuck.]</b>	Non-Periodic: As Required	FIST 2-9 Section 5.4
<b>[Perform an internal inspection of the pressure vessel if the ultrasonic wall thickness data indicates significant loss of material.]</b>	Non-Periodic: As Required	FIST 2-9 Section 4.3.6
<b>{Perform a hydrostatic test of any altered or repaired vessel.}</b>	Non-Periodic: <b>{Upon Alteration or Repair}<sup>2</sup></b>	FIST 2-9 Section 4.1.1
<b>[Maintain data for each pressure vessel.]</b>	<b>[For the life of the equipment]</b>	FIST 2-9 Section 7.0

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
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<sup>1</sup> States or local regulations may exist but are not applicable to federal facilities. State and local certified inspectors may only be able to certify the equipment to state or local standards.

<sup>2</sup> The next visual inspection must be performed within 2 years. The interval of subsequent "Inspect and certify each pressure vessel" inspections, which includes ultrasonic examination, must not exceed 6 years (providing deterioration is shown to be low and at a predictable rate). Document performance of test on UA form. Ensure the new vessel meets cleanliness standards for the system it is intended to be installed in.

## **7.0 Maintenance, Inspection, and Testing of Electric and Hydraulic Elevators**

Maintenance table associated with FIST 2-10, Maintenance, Inspection, and Testing of Electric and Hydraulic Elevators are located in Section 33.0 of FIST 4-1B, Maintenance Scheduling for Electrical Equipment.

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## **8.0 Cranes and Rigging**

The following maintenance tables are in reference to the tasks will be outlined in a new FIST 2-11, Crane and Rigging Manual, currently under development.

### **8.1 Inspection Checklist – Cranes**

Currently under revision, see existing tasks in Appendix.

### **8.2 Inspection Checklist – Rigging**

Currently under revision, see existing tasks in Appendix.

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## 9.0 Mechanical Maintenance for Hydroelectric and Large Pump Units.

The following maintenance tables are in reference to the tasks outlined in FIST 2-12, Mechanical Maintenance for Hydroelectric and Large Pump Units.

### 9.1 Mechanical Maintenance for Hydroelectric and Large Pump Units.

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Inspection Reports <b>[Inspection reports detailing what work was performed during an inspection shall be filled out to record data obtained during the inspection.]</b>	[Upon completion of maintenance inspection]	FIST 2-12 Section 2.0
Turbine Runner/Pump Impeller <b>[Inspect and document turbine runner or pump impeller condition.]</b>	Unmonitored: [3 Years]  Monitored: [6 years]	FIST 2-12 Section 2.4.1
Turbine Runner/Pump Impeller <b>[Repair runner or impeller when significant damage begins to occur.]</b>	Non-periodic: [As Required]	FIST 2-12 Section 2.4.1 FIST 2-5
Spiral Case and Draft Tube or Pump Casing and Suction Inlet <b>[Inspect the condition of the scroll case and draft tube or pump casing and suction inlet.]</b>	[3 years]	FIST 2-12 Section 2.7.1.1
Shaft and Coupling <b>[Measure and record shaft runout.]</b>	Unmonitored: [3 years]  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-12 Section 2.12.1
Wicket Gates and Facing Plates <b>[Measure wicket gate and facing plate clearances.]</b>	[3 years]	FIST 2-12 Section 2.8.1
Wicket Gates and Facing Plates <b>[Check wicket gates for damage.]</b>	[3 years]	FIST 2-12 Section 2.8.1

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Wicket Gates and Facing Plates <b>[Check leakage past wicket gate packing.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.8.1
Wicket Gates and Facing Plates <b>[Check automatic greasing systems.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.8.1
Wicket Gates and Facing Plates <b>[Inspect the facing plates.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.8.1
Servomotors, Shift Ring, and Wicket Gate Linkage <b>[Check for worn servomotor and wicket gate linkages.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.9.1
Servomotors, Shift Ring, and Wicket Gate Linkage <b>[Check oil leakage past servomotor packing glands.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.9.1
Servomotors, Shift Ring, and Wicket Gate Linkage <b>[Review records for shear pin replacement for the preceding years.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.9.1
Wearing Rings <b>[Verify the clearances on the wearing ring.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.6.1
Wearing Rings <b>[Remove the runner or impeller, and renew or replace the wearing rings.]</b>	Non-periodic: As required <sup>2</sup>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.6.1
Shaft Seals <b>[Ensure the flow of shaft seal cooling water.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Weekly]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-12 Section 2.10.3
Shaft Seals <b>[Monitor shaft seals for excessive leakage and maintain per equipment specific requirements.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Weekly]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-12 Section 2.10.3
Shaft Seals <b>[Follow manufacturer recommendations for extended outages.]</b>	Non-periodic: <b>[As required]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.10.3

FIST Volume 4-1A  
Maintenance Scheduling for Mechanical Equipment

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Bearings <b>[Inspect unit bearing lubrication system.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Weekly]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-12 Section 2.11.2
Bearings <b>[Take an oil sample from all bearings and send to a lab for analysis.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[Annually]</b>  Monitored: <b>[6 Years]</b>  Non-Periodic: <b>[Before Scheduled Outage]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.11.2 FIST 2-4, Section 5
Bearings <b>[Filter or change unit bearing oil.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>  Non-Periodic: <b>[Oil sample analysis indicates filtering required]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.11.2
Bearings <b>[Check bearing clearances.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[3 years]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-12 Section 2.11.2
Bearings <b>[Calibrate temperature sensors.]</b>	<b>[6 Years]</b>  Non-Periodic: <b>[Sensors indicate operational issues]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.11.2
Bearings <b>[Calibrate oil level indicators.]</b>	<b>[6 Years]</b>  Non-Periodic: <b>[Sensors indicate operational issues]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.11.2

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Bearings <b>[Inspect lubrication system oil pumps.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[3 years]</b>  Monitored: No periodic maintenance required	FIST 2-12 Section 2.11.2
Bearings <b>[Check the generator thrust bearing and upper guide bearing insulation and oil film resistance test.]</b>	Non-Periodic: <b>[After any oil system component replacement (e.g. oil pump, piping, etc.)]</b>  <b>[Pre-operation after bearing refurbishment or bearing re-assembly]<sup>3</sup></b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.11.2
Bearing Cooling Coils <b>[Maintain bearing oil cooling coils.]</b>	Non-periodic: As required	FIST 2-12 Section 2.11.2
Generator or Motor <b>[Inspect the unit rotor.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.13.5
Generator or Motor <b>[Inspect the unit stator.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.13.5
Air Coolers <b>[Maintain the unit air coolers.]</b>	Unmonitored: <b>[3 years]</b>  Monitored: <b>[6 years]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.13.5
Air Coolers <b>[Check interior of air cooler coils for excessive scale buildup.]</b>	Non-periodic: As required	FIST 2-12 Section 2.13.5
Unit Brakes <b>[Inspect and maintain brake air line filters and lubricators.]</b>	<b>[Quarterly]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.13.5
Unit Brakes <b>[Inspect and maintain brake shoes, brake cylinders, and brake ring.]</b>	<b>[3 year]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.13.5

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Critical Bolted Connections <b>[Identify, calculate preload, and maintain a record of assembly of each critical bolted connection.]</b>	Non-periodic: As required	FIST 2-12 Section 2.7.4.1
Critical Bolted Connection <b>[New fasteners used in a critical bolted connection shall be certified for material specifications and a record maintained.]</b>	Non-periodic: As required	FIST 2-12 Section 2.7.4.1
Headcover <b>[Inspect the condition of the headcover.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.7.2.1
Turbine Air Vents or Pressurized Air Injection Systems <b>[Visually inspect and perform maintenance of turbine air vents or pressurized air injection systems.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.5.1
Vibration Monitoring and Analysis <b>[All facilities shall install vibration monitoring on all units.]</b>	Non-periodic: As required	FIST 2-12 Section 2.15
Vibration Monitoring and Analysis <b>[All facilities shall maintain vibration monitoring on all units.]</b>	<b>[3 years]</b>	FIST 2-12 Section 2.15.4

<sup>1</sup>If operating units outside operating range or historical conditions increasing inspection frequency may be warranted. Inspect after operations outside the defined operational range on the hill chart or head curves. At first opportunity or annually whichever occurs first.

<sup>2</sup>If clearances are above 200% of design and the unit is having thrust bearing heating issues or excessive runout issues, review this subject with TSC 8470 Turbine Design Engineers. Some units have an inner labyrinth seal on the headcover which greatly reduces the hydraulic downthrust on the unit. Due to these designs, a clearance exceeding 200% of design may not be the only deciding factor.

<sup>3</sup>Periodic maintenance for this equipment is in FIST 4-1B, Section 21.2.

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# 10.0 Mechanical Overhaul Procedures for Hydroelectric and Large Pump Units

The following maintenance tables are in reference to the tasks outlined in FIST 2-7, Mechanical Overhaul Procedures for Hydroelectric and Large Pump Units

## 10.1 Maintenance Schedule for Mechanical Overhaul Procedures for Hydroelectric and Large Pump Units

Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Wicket Gates and Facing Plates Disassemble and check wicket gates.	Non-periodic: Overhaul activities	FIST 2-7 Section 3.3, 4.4, & 4.5
Wicket Gates and Facing Plates Measure height of wicket gates.	Non-periodic: Overhaul activities	FIST 2-7 Section 4.4 & 4.5
Wicket Gates and Facing Plates Check gate-to-gate sealing surfaces.	Non-periodic: Overhaul activities	FIST 2-7 Section 4.4 & 4.5
Turbine Runner/Pump Impeller When the unit is disassembled, ensure to inspect and repair areas not normally accessible.	Non-periodic: Overhaul activities	FIST 2-7 Section 4.6
Servomotors, Shift Ring, and Wicket Gate Linkage Inspect normally hidden servomotor components.	Non-periodic: Overhaul activities	FIST 2-7 Section 4.7
Bearings Visually inspect all bearing surfaces.	Non-periodic: Overhaul activities	FIST 2-7 Section 4.1
Bearings Inspect the thrust bearing high-pressure oil lift system.	Non-periodic: Overhaul activities	FIST 2-7 Section 4.1
Generator or Motor Inspect the air gap between the unit stator and rotor.	Non-periodic: Overhaul activities	FIST 2-7 Section 3.1.2 FIST 4-7 Section 6.1.28.1

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## 11.0 Gates and Valves

The following maintenance tables are in reference to the tasks will be outlined in a new FIST 2-13, Gates and Valves, currently under development.

### 11.1 Inspection Checklist – Gates and Valves

Currently under development, see existing tasks in Appendix.

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## 12.0 Corrosion Protection

### 12.1 General

The following maintenance tables are in reference to the tasks outlined in FIST 4-5, Corrosion Protection. These tables cover cathodic protection systems. Coating systems also require maintenance, but the required interval is driven by other maintenance tables found in this document.

### 12.2 Maintenance Schedule for Galvanic Anode Cathodic Protection Systems

Maintenance Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Test Stations and Junction Boxes <b>[Inspect test stations and/or junction boxes for damage.]</b>	<b>[Monthly]</b>	FIST 4-5, Section 5.4.6.1
<b>[Verify connections and clean out any debris.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	
Potential Readings <b>[Measure and record electrochemical potential readings of the protected structures.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 4-5, Section 5.4.6.2
Anode Current <b>[Measure and record the current flowing through each anode on the data sheets.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 4-5, Section 5.4.6.3
Submit Records for Records <b>[Submit records for review.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 4-5, Section 5.4.6.4

## 12.3 Maintenance Schedule for Impressed Current Cathodic Protection Systems

Maintenance Tasks	Frequency	Reference
Test Stations and Junction Boxes <b>[Inspect test stations and/or junction boxes for damage.]</b>	<b>[Monthly]</b>	FIST 4-5, Section 5.4.7.1
<b>[Verify connections and clean out any debris.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	
Rectifiers <b>[Inspect rectifier cabinet for damage.]</b>	<b>[Monthly]</b>	FIST 4-5, Section 5.4.7.2
<b>[Verify the rectifier is energized and set in accordance with equipment SOP.]</b>	<b>[Monthly]</b>	
<b>[Verify connections and clean out any debris.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	
<b>[Record rectifier tap settings and dc measurements.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	
<b>[Measure and record dc readings.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	
Potential Readings <b>[Record electrochemical potential readings of the protected structures.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 4-5, Section 5.4.7.3
Submit Records for Records <b>[Submit records for review.]</b>	<b>[Annually]</b>	FIST 4-5, Section 5.4.7.4

## 13.0 Fire Protection

The following maintenance tables are in reference to the tasks will be outlined in a new FIST 5-2, Fire Protection, currently under development.

### 13.1 Inspection Checklist – Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Sprinkler Systems

Currently under revision, see existing tasks in Appendix.

### 13.2 Inspection Checklist – Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Fire Pump

Currently under revision, see existing tasks in Appendix.

### 13.3 Inspection Checklist – Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water Spray, Fixed Systems

Currently under revision, see existing tasks in Appendix.

### 13.4 Inspection Checklist – Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Private Hydrants and Fire Service Mains

Currently under revision, see existing tasks in Appendix.

### 13.5 Inspection Checklist – Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Standpipe and Hose Systems

Currently under revision, see existing tasks in Appendix.

### **13.6 Inspection Checklist – Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Carbon Dioxide Systems**

Currently under revision, see existing tasks in Appendix.

### **13.7 Inspection Checklist – Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing**

Currently under revision, see existing tasks in Appendix.

### **13.8 Inspection Checklist – Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing**

Currently under revision, see existing tasks in Appendix.

## 14.0 Revision History

Revision	Date	Change Summary	Reclamation Manual
3.0	01/21/2026	Major revision. Incorporated changes from the Reclamation Maintenance Improvement Initiative. Effectuated equipment sections: new 4.7, Auxiliary Pumps; 5.0 Penstocks and Pressure Conduits, 6.0 Unfired Pressure Vessels.	(FIST 033) Supersedes (FIST 029) 05/29/2024

# Appendix

The information in the Appendix is from the 2009 revision of FIST 4-1A. This information is valid until an updated FIST Manual is released, which, at that time, the corresponding information within this Appendix will be deleted and the maintenance table in the main body will be inserted.

# 1.0 Introduction

## 1.1 Maintenance

### 1.1.1 General

This document is intended to establish recommended practice as well as to give general advice and guidance in the maintenance of mechanical equipment owned and operated by the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). Specific technical details of maintenance are included in other documents referenced in this document.

Maintenance recommendations are based on industry standards and experience in Reclamation facilities. However, equipment and situations vary greatly, and sound engineering and management judgment must be exercised when applying these recommendations. Other sources of information must be consulted (e.g., manufacturer's recommendations, unusual operating conditions, personal experience with the equipment, etc.) in conjunction with these maintenance recommendations.

### 1.1.2 Preventive Maintenance

Preventive maintenance (PM) is the practice of maintaining equipment on a regular schedule based on elapsed time or meter readings. The intent of PM is to "prevent" maintenance problems or failures before they take place by following routine and comprehensive maintenance procedures. The goal is to achieve fewer, shorter, and more predictable outages.

Some advantages of PM are:

- It is predictable, making budgeting, planning, and resource leveling possible.
- When properly practiced, it generally prevents most major problems, thus reducing forced outages, "reactive maintenance," and maintenance costs in general.
- It assures managers that equipment is being maintained.
- It is easily understood and justified.

PM does have some drawbacks:

- It is time consuming and resource intensive.
- It does not consider actual equipment condition when scheduling or performing the maintenance.
- It can cause problems in equipment in addition to solving them (e.g., damaging seals, stripping threads).

Despite these drawbacks, PM has proven generally reliable in the past and is still the core of most maintenance programs.

PM traditionally has been the standard maintenance practice in Reclamation. The maintenance recommendations in this document are based on a PM philosophy and should be considered as “baseline” practices to be used when managing a maintenance program.

However, care should be taken in applying PM recommendations. Wholesale implementation of PM recommendations without considering equipment criticality or equipment condition may result in a workload that is too large to achieve. This could result in important equipment not receiving needed maintenance, which defeats the purpose of PM management.

To mitigate this problem, maintenance managers may choose to apply a ***consciously chosen, effectively implemented, and properly documented*** reliability-centered maintenance (RCM) program.

Whether utilizing a PM, RCM, or condition-based maintenance (CBM) program, or a combination of these, scheduled maintenance should be the primary focus of the in-house maintenance staff. This will reduce reactive (emergency and corrective) maintenance. Scheduled maintenance should have a higher priority than special projects and should be the number one priority.

### **1.1.3 Reliability-Centered Maintenance**

RCM programs are gaining in popularity and have been piloted in a few Reclamation power facilities with good results. The goal of these programs is to provide the appropriate amount of maintenance at the right time to prevent forced outages while at the same time eliminating unnecessary maintenance.

Implemented properly, RCM can eliminate some of the drawbacks of PM and may result in a more streamlined, efficient maintenance program. RCM seems very attractive in times of diminishing funding, scarcity of skilled maintenance staff, and the pressure to “stay online” due to electric utility industry deregulation.

Some features of RCM are:

- It may be labor intensive and time consuming to set up initially.
- It may require additional monitoring of quantities, like temperature and vibration, to be effective. This may mean new monitoring equipment with its own PM or more human monitoring with multiple inspections.
- It may result in a “run-to-failure” or deferred maintenance philosophy for some equipment which may cause concern for some staff and managers.
- It may require initial and later revisions to the maintenance schedule in a “trial-and-error” fashion depending on the success of the initial maintenance schedule and equipment condition.
- It should result in a more manageable maintenance workload focused on the most important equipment.

RCM is not an excuse to move to a “breakdown maintenance” philosophy or to eliminate critical PM in the name of reducing maintenance staff/ funding. However, to mitigate problems associated with a PM program, maintenance managers may choose to apply a ***consciously chosen, effectively implemented, and properly documented*** RCM program.

For a viable RCM program at Reclamation facilities, it must:

- Be chosen as the local maintenance philosophy by management.
- Be implemented according to generally accepted RCM practices.
- Be documented so that maintenance decisions are defensible.

#### **1.1.4 Condition-Based Maintenance**

This program relies on knowing the condition of individual pieces of equipment.

Some features of CBM include:

- Monitoring equipment parameters such as temperatures, pressures, vibrations, leakage current, dissolved gas analysis, etc.
- Testing on a periodic basis and/or when problems are suspected such as Doble testing, vibration testing, and infrared scanning.
- Monitoring carefully operator-gathered data.
- Securing results in knowledgeable maintenance decisions which would reduce overall costs by focusing only on equipment that really needs attention.

Drawbacks to CBM include it being very difficult and expensive to monitor some quantities. It requires knowledgeable and consistent analysis to be effective; and also condition monitoring equipment and systems themselves require maintenance. Because of these drawbacks, it is nearly impossible to have an entirely CBM program.

#### **1.1.5 Combination of Condition-Based and Preventive Maintenance**

A combination of CBM and PM is perhaps the most practical approach. Monitoring, testing, and using historical data and PM schedules may provide the best information on when equipment should be maintained. By keeping accurate records of the “as found” condition of equipment when it is torn down for maintenance, one can determine what maintenance was really necessary. In this manner, maintenance schedules can be lengthened or perhaps shortened, based on experience and monitoring.

## 1.2 Standards and References

### 1.2.1 Reclamation Standards

Electrical and mechanical maintenance recommended practices for some equipment are contained in other Facilities, Instructions, Standards, and Techniques (FIST) volumes that will be referenced in this report. For equipment not covered by other FIST volumes, requirements defined in this report are the recommended practices. Manufacturer=s maintenance requirements, as defined in instruction books, also must be incorporated into a complete maintenance program. Other recommended practices are defined in *Power Equipment Bulletins* (PEB).

Variance from Reclamation electrical maintenance recommended practices, as defined in FIST volumes, is acceptable provided that proper documentation exists to support the variance. Refer to the *Power Review of O&M Directive and Standard and Guidebook* for further information (see section 1.7).

Recommended practices, including recommended intervals (defined in FIST volumes) are based on power industry best practices, published standards, and Reclamation's experience maintaining equipment in hydroelectric powerplants. Additional references to published standards may be found in other FIST volumes.

To access Reclamation's FIST volumes:

- Printed FIST volumes:
- Regional and Area Offices – Contact 86-68440, Hydropower Technical Services Group 303-445-2300. All others – contact National Technical Information Service, Operations Division, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161.
- Intranet access to FIST volumes: <http://intra.usbr.gov>  
Select: Quicklist; Power O&M.
- Access to Internet FIST volumes: [www.usbr.gov](http://www.usbr.gov)  
Select: Programs & Activities, Power Program, Reports & Data; FIST Manuals.

This FIST volume supersedes, in part, *Power Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Bulletin No. 19 - Maintenance Schedules and Records*. Mechanical maintenance portions of *Power O&M Bulletin No. 19* are included in FIST Volume 4-1A, *Maintenance Scheduling for Mechanical Equipment*. Electrical maintenance portions of *Power O&M Bulletin No. 19* are included in FIST Volume 4-1B, *Maintenance Scheduling for Electrical Equipment*.

### 1.2.2 Recommended Standards and References

Current editions of the following published standards and references should be maintained locally for mechanical engineers, mechanical foremen, mechanical supervisors, and other O&M personnel to use:

- Applicable National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards
- Applicable American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/American Society for Testing and Materials (ASME) Standards for cranes
- FIST Volume 1-1, Hazardous Energy Control Program
- Copies of all mechanical maintenance and safety FIST volumes
- Copies of all mechanical PEBs

## 1.3 Maintenance and Test Procedures

### 1.3.1 General

Maintenance activities fall into three general categories:

- *Routine Maintenance* - Activities that are conducted while equipment and systems are in service. These activities are predictable and can be scheduled and budgeted. Generally, these are the activities scheduled on a time-based or meter-based schedule derived from preventive or predictive maintenance strategies. Some examples are visual inspections, cleaning, functional tests, measurement of operating quantities, lubrication, oil tests, and governor maintenance.
- *Maintenance Testing* - Activities that involve using test equipment to assess condition in an offline state. These activities are predictable and can be scheduled and budgeted. They may be scheduled on a time or meter basis but may be planned to coincide with scheduled equipment outages. Since these activities are predictable, some offices consider them “routine maintenance” or “preventive maintenance.” Some examples are governor alignments and balanced and unbalanced gate testing.
- *Diagnostic Testing* – Activities that involve using test equipment to assess the condition of equipment after unusual events, such as equipment failure/ repair/replacement or when equipment deterioration is suspected. These activities are not predictable and cannot be scheduled because they are required after a forced outage. Each office must budget for these events. Some examples are governor troubleshooting, unit balancing, and vibration testing.

This document addresses scheduling of maintenance activities in the first two categories. It does not address follow up work generated by routine maintenance or maintenance testing, nor does it address diagnostic testing (with a few exceptions). Also, maintenance staff may be used for other activities such as improvements and construction, but this guide does not address these activities.

## 1.4 Maintenance Schedules and Documentation

Complete, thorough, and current documentation is essential to an effective maintenance program. Whether you are performing preventive, predictive, or reliability-centered maintenance, keeping track of equipment condition and maintenance performed or planned is critical.

Maintenance recommendations contained in this report should be used as the basis for establishing or refining a maintenance schedule. Recommendations can be converted into Job Plans or Work Orders in MAXIMO or another maintenance management system. Once these job plans and work orders are established, implementation of well-executed predictive or RCM is possible.

The maintenance recordkeeping system must be kept current so that a complete maintenance history of each piece of equipment is available at all times. This is important for planning and conducting an ongoing maintenance program and provides documentation needed for the Power O&M Reviews (section 1.7). Regular maintenance and emergency maintenance must be well documented, as should special work done during overhauls and replacement.

The availability of up-to-date drawings to management and maintenance staff is extremely important. Accurate drawings are very important to ongoing maintenance, testing, and new construction; but they also are essential during emergencies for troubleshooting. In addition, accurate drawings are important to the continued safety of the staff working on the equipment.

## 1.5 Job Plan Templates

Job plan templates have been created to assist in developing site-specific MAXIMO Job Plans for electrical and mechanical PM. The electrical job plan templates include all PM activities prescribed in this volume and may be augmented to include manufacturer's maintenance requirements and other site-specific considerations. Local development of complete job plans that match FIST volume requirements can be expedited by adopting these templates. Templates can be accessed on the Reclamation Intranet at <http://intra.usbr.gov/~hydrores/pomreview/> and selecting "Job Plan Templates" from the menu on the left.

## 1.6 Power O&M Forms

Power O&M (PO&M) forms have been updated and placed on the Intranet for facility use in documenting maintenance. These forms can be filled out online and printed or printed and completed by hand. PO&M forms are available at <http://intra.usbr.gov/~hydrores/pomreview/>. Select "Power O&M Forms" from the menu on the left or from the Reclamation forms Web site at <http://intra.usbr.gov/forms/>.

## 1.7 Power O&M Reviews

Mechanical maintenance is one aspect of the Power Review of O&M Program. This program uses regularly scheduled annual (self-assessment), periodic (regionally conducted), and comprehensive (Denver conducted) reviews. Each level of review is intended to assess compliance with accepted practices in operation and maintenance. The accepted practices for mechanical equipment maintenance are defined in this and other FIST volumes, PEBs, and in the references cited in this document. As stated above in section 1.2.1, variance from these practices is acceptable if adequate justification is provided to reviewers

## 1.8 Limitations

This volume summarizes maintenance recommendations for mechanical equipment and directs the reader to related references. It should not be the sole source of information used in conducting maintenance activities. Other references, training, and work experience are also necessary to fully understand and carry out the recommended maintenance.

## 1.9 Safety During Maintenance

Performing maintenance on mechanical equipment can be hazardous. Electrical and mechanical energy can cause injury and death if not managed properly. All maintenance activity should be conducted in accordance with FIST Volume 1-1, Hazardous Energy Control Program (HECP) and Reclamation Safety and Health Standards. A job hazard analysis (JHA) must be conducted as well. Visitors, contractors, and others working under clearances must be trained in HECP and must follow all JHA and clearance procedures.

## 2.0 Turbine and Pump Maintenance

Turbine and Large pump information has moved to FIST 2-12, Hydroelectric Turbines and Large Pumps.

Auxiliary Pump information moved into FIST 2-6, Maintenance of Auxiliary Mechanical Equipment Section 6.0.

## **3.0 Penstocks, Outlet Pipes, Piping, Gates, and Valves**

### **3.1 Penstocks, Outlet Pipes, Lines, and Piping**

Revised – Reference FIST 2-8, Inspection of Steel Penstocks and Pressure Conduits, and the tables above in the main document section.

### **3.2 Gates and Valves**

#### **3.2.1 General**

There are numerous types of gates and valves installed in Reclamation powerplants and dams. Figures 15, 16, and 17 illustrate some common gate and valve layouts. A gate or valve's primary purpose is to regulate flow or to act as a secondary shutoff. The following definitions are taken from the Handbook of Applied Hydraulics, Third Edition:

Upstream Gating		Schematic Illustrations Flow Direction →	Downstream Gating
Single Outlets	Guard Gate and Bulkhead Gate or Stoplogs		Turbine Wickets
	Bulkhead Gate		Guard Gate and Regulating Gate or Valve
Bifurcated Outlets	Guard Gate and Bulkhead Gate or Stoplogs		Guard Gates or Valves and Turbine Wickets
	Guard Gate and Bulkhead Gate or Stoplogs		Guard Gates and Regulating Gates or Valves
Manifold Outlets	Guard Gate and Bulkhead Gate or Stoplogs		Outlet Works Guard Gates and Regulating Gates or Valves Power Outlets Guard Gates or Valves and Turbine Wickets
1 Bulkhead Gate or Stoplogs 2 Entrance 3 Guard Gate 4 Conduit		5 Penstock 6 Manifold 7 Turbine 8 Regulating Gate or Valve	

Figure 1. Common gate and valve arrangements

Type	Schematic Illustrations Flow Direction →	Notes and Comments
Tower Intake (Rectangular Gate)		Tower intakes are used principally on earth dams where abutments are not suitable for intake structures. Also used for concrete dams where intakes must be located on abutments and other types are not suitable. Basic arrangement is similar to vertical abutment intake. Bridge is usually provided to dam or abutment.
Tower Intake (Cylinder Gate)		Tower intakes used primarily where intake entrance is vertical. Other selection factors are similar to those stated above for rectangular gates.
Shaft Intake (Submerged Upstream)		Intake arrangement used principally on earth dams. Shaft usually located near axis of dam, either in dam or abutment. Abutment location is preferable to avoid joint between abutment rock and dam fill. Intake bulkhead installation requires drawing reservoir down or placement from a barge and the employment of divers.
1 Reservoir Water Surface 2 Hoist 3 Trash Rack 4 Bulkhead Gate 5 Wheel or Roller Mounted Gate 6 Hoist 7 Bridge to Dam or Abutment 8 Hoist Stem Sections 9 Air Vent		10 Transition 11 Pipe 12 Bellmouth 13 Radial Entrance 14 Intake Structure 15 Bonnet Cover 16 Steel Encasement 17 Cylinder Gate

Figure 2. Intake arrangements

Type	Schematic Illustrations Flow Direction →	Notes and Comments
Vertical Intake on Dam or Abutment		Intake types are used principally on concrete dams and on earth dams with abutment intakes. Type A used primarily for single line outlet works. Type B used for all types of power outlets and for branched and manifold type of outlet works.
Small Slope Intake on Dam		Type of intake frequently used on thin arch concrete dams. Used for all types of power outlets and for branched and manifold outlet works. Gantry crane is usually provided for handling gate and stoplogs for multiple outlet installations.
Large Slope Intake on Abutment		Intake used mainly for abutment intakes on earth dams. Hoist stems must be provided with support wheels. Reduction in effective weight for gravity closing may require the provision of closing thrust by hoist, or the use of roller-mounted gates.
1 Reservoir Water Surface 2 Hoist 3 Trash Rack 4 Bulkhead Gate 5 Wheel or Roller Mounted Gate 6 Curtain Wall 7 Hoist House 8 Hoist Stem Sections		9 Air Vent 10 Transition 11 Pipe 12 Bellmouth 13 Slot Cover 14 Removable Cover 15 Stoplogs

Figure 3. Intake arrangements

**Gate.**—A gate is a closure device in which a leaf or closure member is moved across the fluidway from an external position to control the flow of water.

**Valve.**—A valve is a closure device in which the closure member remains fixed axially with respect to the fluidway and is either rotated or moved longitudinally to control the flow of water.

**Guard Gates or Valves.**—Guard gates or valves operate fully open or closed and function as a secondary device for shutting off the flow of water in case the primary closure device becomes inoperable. Guard gates usually are operated under balanced-pressure no-flow conditions, except for closure in emergencies.

**Regulating Gates and Valves.**—Regulating gates and valves operate under full pressure and flow conditions to throttle and vary the rate of discharge.

**Bulkhead Gates.**—Bulkhead gates usually are installed at the entrance, are used to unwater fluidways for inspection or maintenance, and nearly always are opened or closed under balanced pressures.

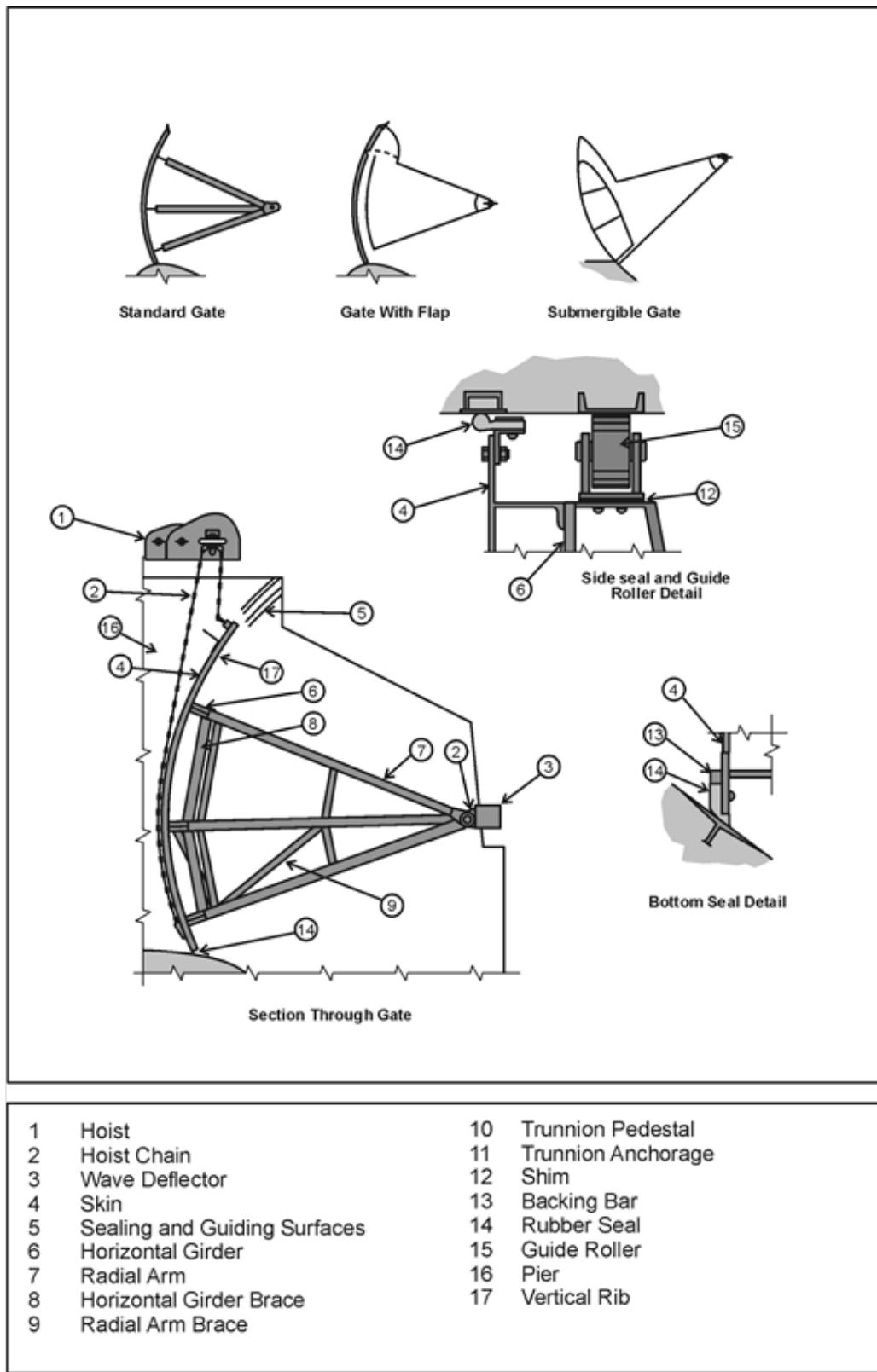
**Stop Logs.**—Stop logs are installed in the same manner and perform the same function as bulkhead gates. A stop log may be considered as a section of a bulkhead gate which has been made of several units to permit easier handling.

### 3.2.2 Gates

Closure or regulating devices meeting the above definition of “gates” appear in a variety of forms. The more common types are discussed in the following sections.

#### 1. *Radial or Tainter Gates*

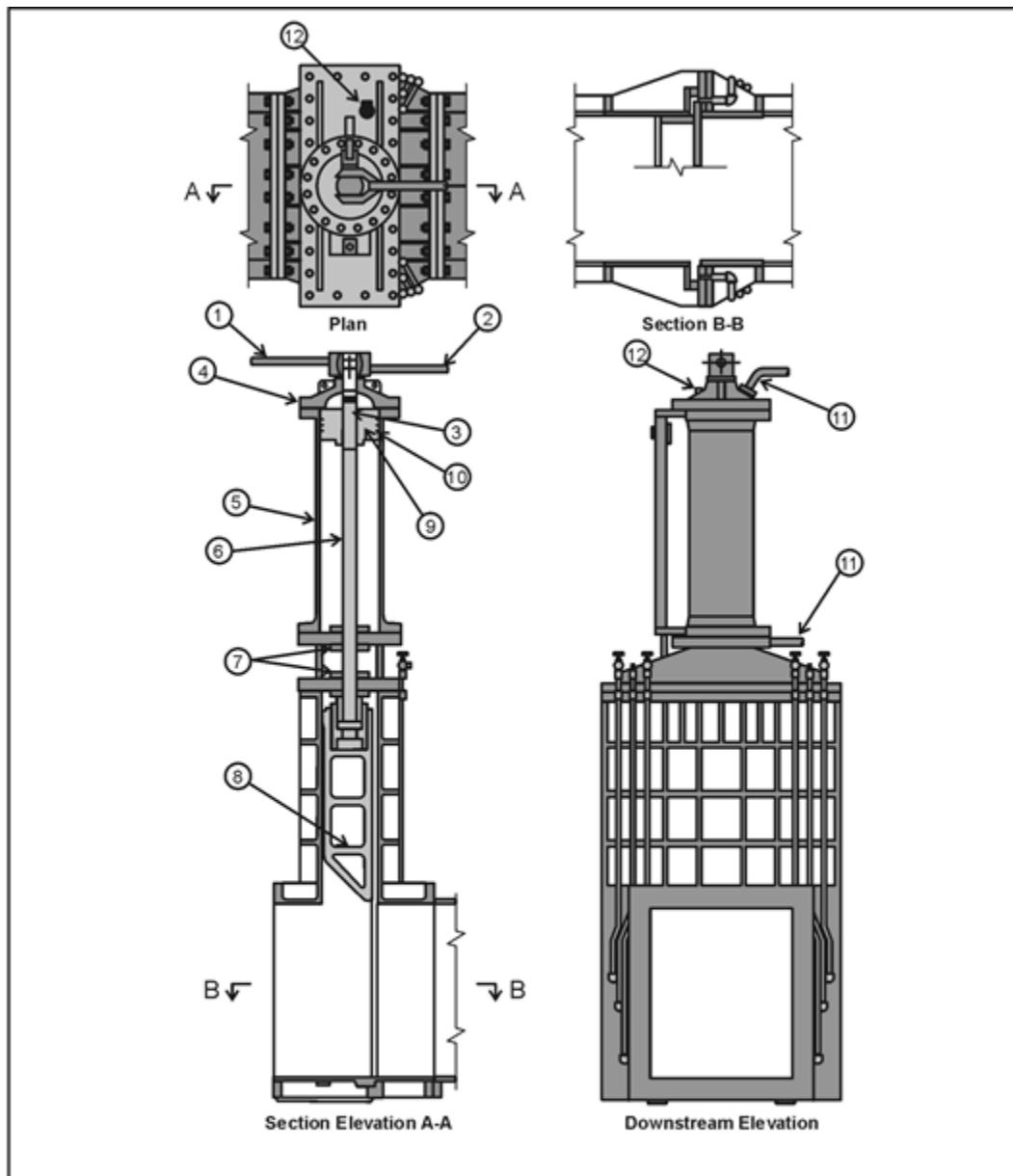
Radial gates (figure 18) or tainter gates, as they also are called, are used primarily as spillway crest gates but are also used in canals or other open channel applications. A radial gate basically consists of a skinplate, shaped like a cylindrical section, connected to radial arms which converge to a horizontal pivot pin. The gate is raised or lowered usually by a wire rope or chain and sprocket hoist.



**Figure 4. Radial Gates**

## 2. *Slide Gates*

Slide gates, in their various configurations, may be used as guard or regulating gates for closed, high-pressure conduits, such as penstocks and outlet works, or for open channel flow such as canals. The construction of a slide gate can vary a great deal. The cast iron slide gate consists of a flat or rectangular leaf that is moved within a frame over a circular or rectangular opening. The leaf is connected to a hoist by a stem which is supported by guides attached to the concrete above the opening. High-pressure gates and outlet gates are also slide gates. They consist of a leaf, a body and bonnet embedded in concrete, and some type of hoist for raising and lowering the leaf. Since slide gates usually seal downstream, the downstream mating surfaces between the leaf and the body act as bearing and sealing surfaces. Figure 19 shows an outlet works slide gate.

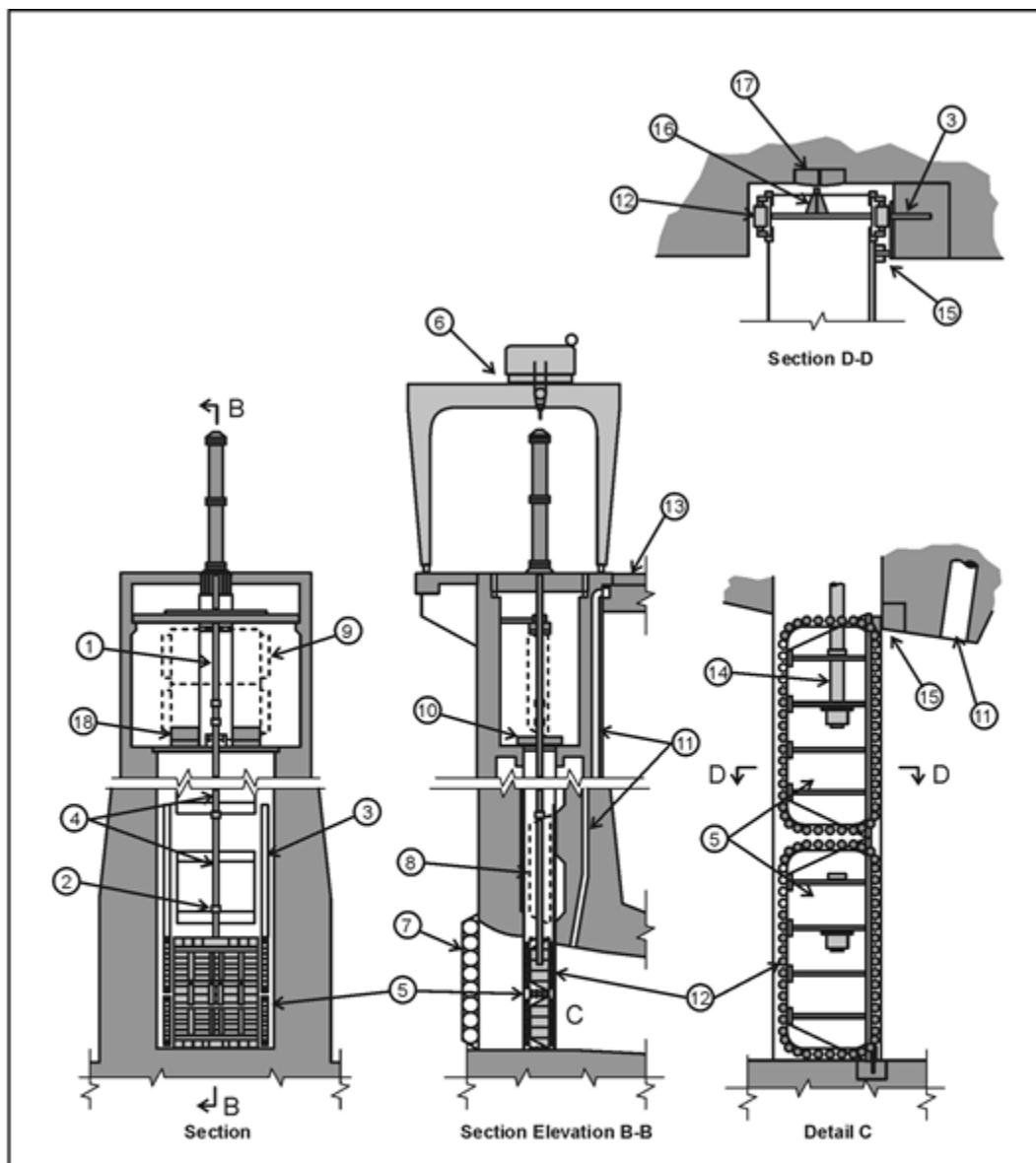


1	Hanger Stud Lever (Open)	6	Gate Stem
2	Hanger Stud Lever (Closed)	7	Packing Glands
3	Gate Hanger Stud (Mechanically holds gate open when engaged)	8	Gate Leaf (Open)
4	Upper Cylinder Head	9	Piston
5	Cylinder	10	Piston Rings
		11	Oil Pipe Connection
		12	Vent Valve

Figure 5. Slide gate

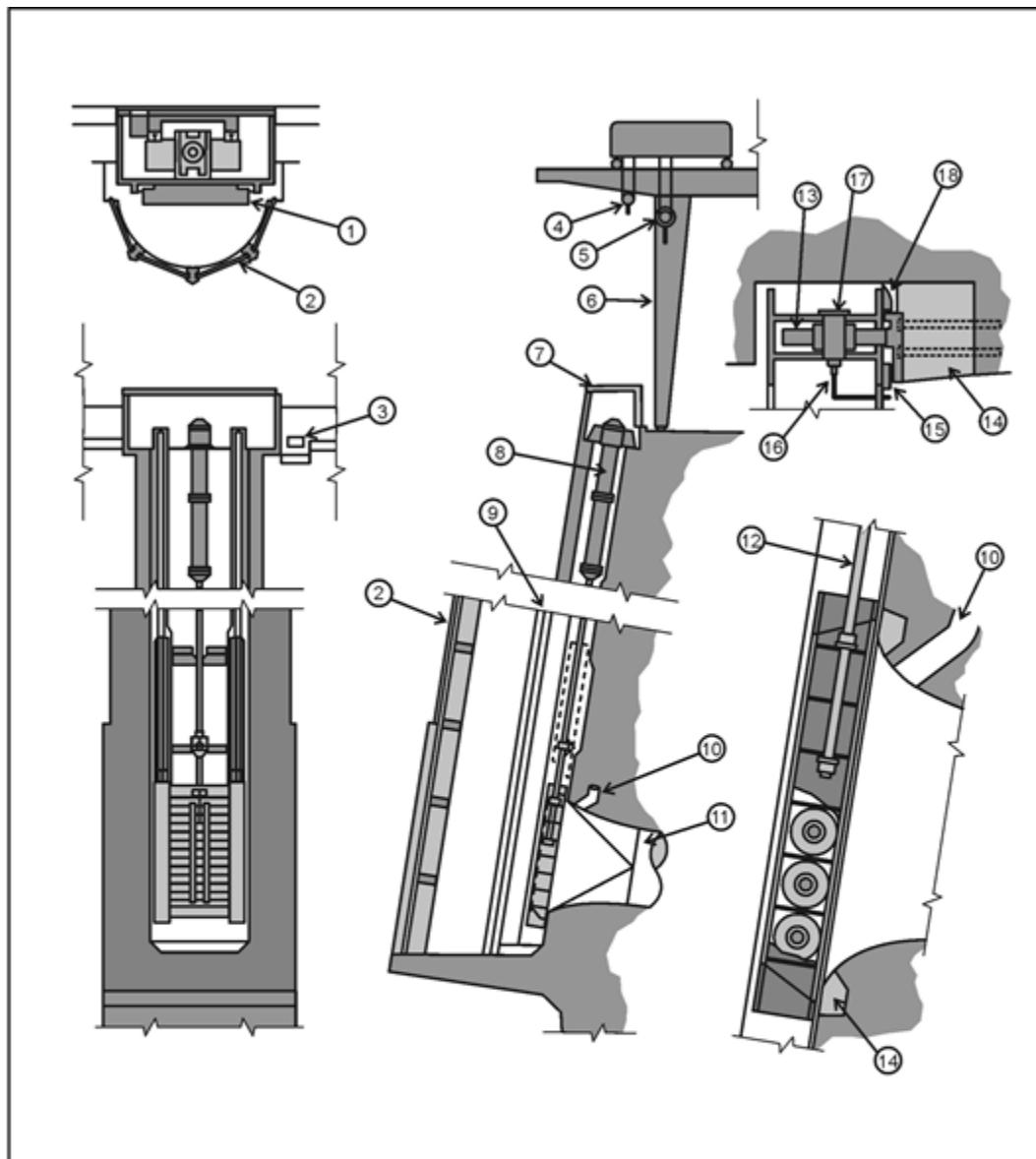
3. *Wheel- and Roller-Mounted Gates*

Wheel-mounted (fixed wheel gates) and roller-mounted (coaster gates) gates consist of a flat structural steel gate leaf with a roller system or a series of wheels fixed to the leaf to transfer the hydraulic load from the gate to tracks imbedded in concrete. These gates are used as spillway gates or as the primary guard gate for a penstock or outlet conduit. Depending on the application, the hoist for the gate may be a hydraulic cylinder or some type of a mechanical hoist. Figures 20 and 21 show typical installations.



1	Hoist Stem	10	Stem Handling Beam
2	Couplings	11	Air Vent
3	Roller Track	12	Roller Train
4	Intermediate Stems	13	Bridge to Abutment
5	Roller Mounted Gate	14	Gate Stem
6	Gantry Crane	15	Seal Assembly
7	Bulk head Gate	16	Guide Bracket
8	Gate in Open Position	17	Guide Track
9	Gate in Erection or Servicing Position	18	Erection Beam

**Figure 6. Roller mounted gate (coaster gate)**

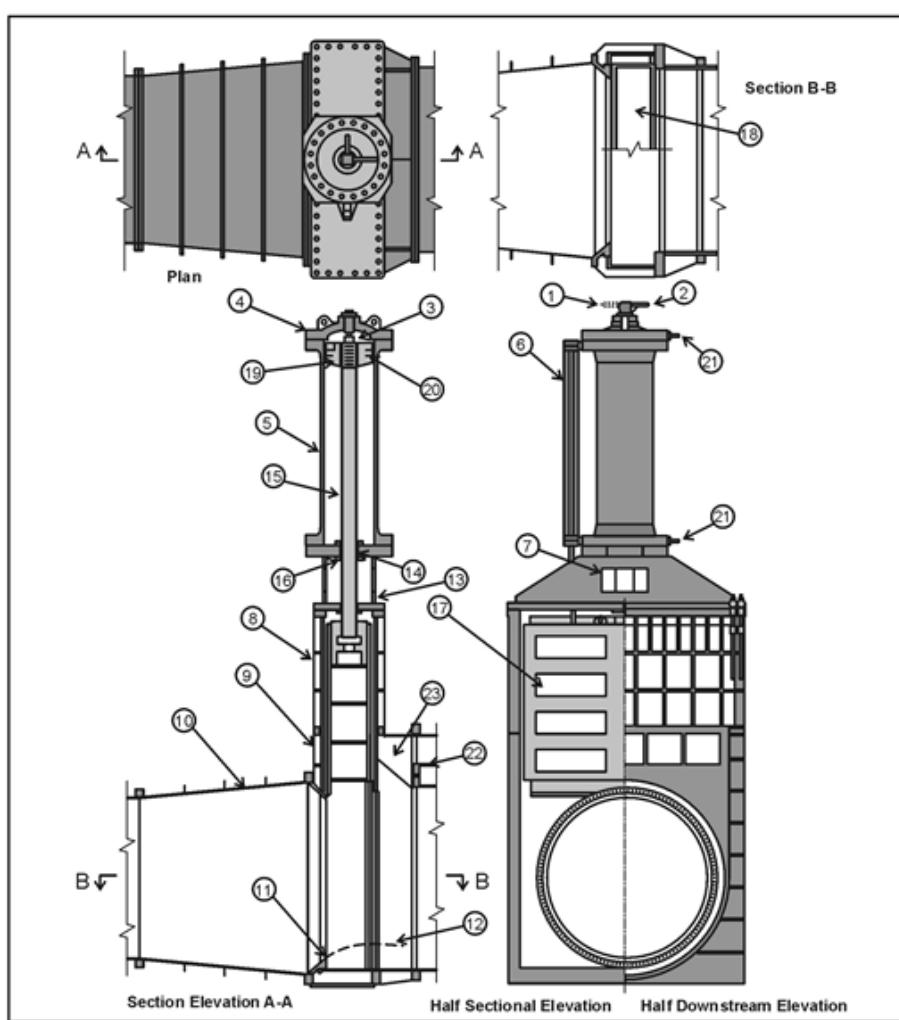


1	Stoplog Opening	10	Air Vent
2	Trash Racks	11	Pipe
3	Air Vent Intake	12	Hoist Stem
4	Stop Log Hook	13	Wheel
5	Gate Hook	14	Block Out
6	Gantry Crane	15	Seal Assembly
7	Removable Cover	16	Grease Fitting
8	Hydraulic Hoist	17	Axel
9	Stop Log Slot	18	Guide Bracket

Figure 7. Wheel mounted gate (fixed wheel gate)

#### 4. Jet Flow Gates

Jet flow gates are used strictly for water regulation through outlet conduits. A jet flow gate is similar to a slide gate consisting of a leaf, a body, a bonnet, and a hoist to position the leaf. The outlet of the gate is circular in cross section, rather than square or rectangular as a slide gate, with a conical nozzle upstream of the gate. This nozzle produces a contracted, jet type discharge that jumps over the gate leaf slot. Figure 22 shows a jet flow gate.

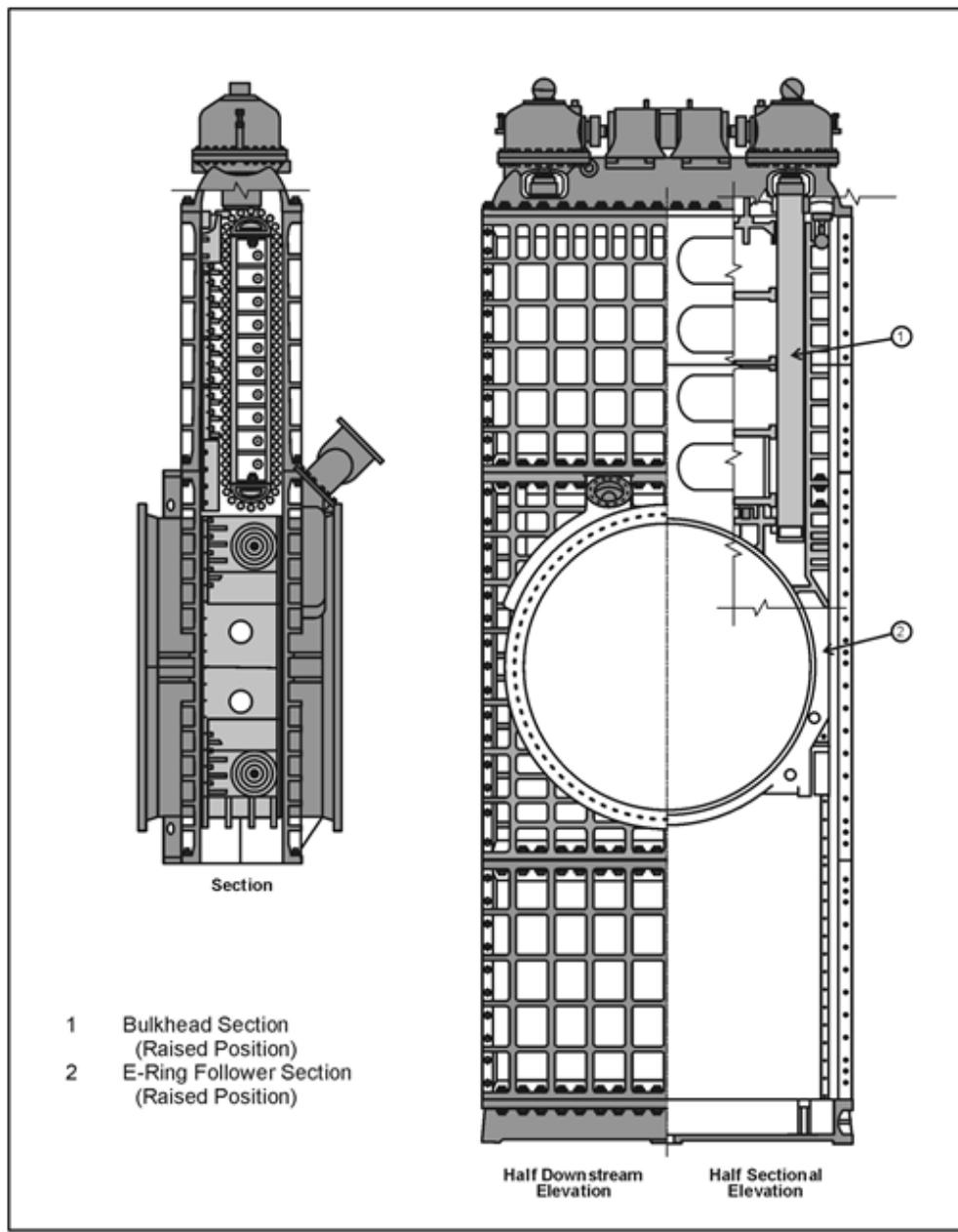


1	Hanger Stud Lever (Engaged)	12	Jet Flow Boundary
2	Hanger Stud Lever (Disengaged)	13	Bonnet Cover
3	Gate Hanger Stud (Mechanically holds gate open when engaged)	14	Vee Packing
4	Upper Cylinder Head	15	Gate Stem
5	Cylinder	16	Packing Gland
6	Gate Position Indicator	17	Gate Leaf (Open)
7	Access to Stuffing Boxes	18	Gate Leaf (Closed)
8	Upstream Bonnet	19	Piston
9	Upstream Body	20	Piston Rings
10	Conical Diffuser	21	Oil Pipe Connection
11	Jet Spring Point	22	Air Vent Conduit
		23	Air Vent Manifold

**Figure 8. Jet flow gate**

5. *Ring-Follower Gates*

Ring-follower gates are used as guard gates for penstocks or outlet conduits and are not suitable for water regulation. A ring-follower gate is a slide gate with a leaf, body, bonnet, and a hoist, which is usually a hydraulic cylinder, to move the leaf. The ring-follower gate leaf consists of two parts: the bulkhead part which blocks the fluid flow in the closed position and the “ring” portion, which has a circular opening matching the diameter of the penstock or conduit, to provide a unobstructed water passage in the open position. A ring-follower gate is shown in figure 23.



**Figure 9. Ring follower gate**

6. *Ring-Seal Gates*

Ring-seal gates are a type of ring-follower gate with a movable seal and a wheel- or roller-mounted gate leaf. The gate seal is hydraulically actuated by water pressure, either from the conduit or an external source, and may be located in the housing or the leaf. The hoist may be mechanical or a hydraulic cylinder. Ring-seal gates are shown in figures 24 and 25.

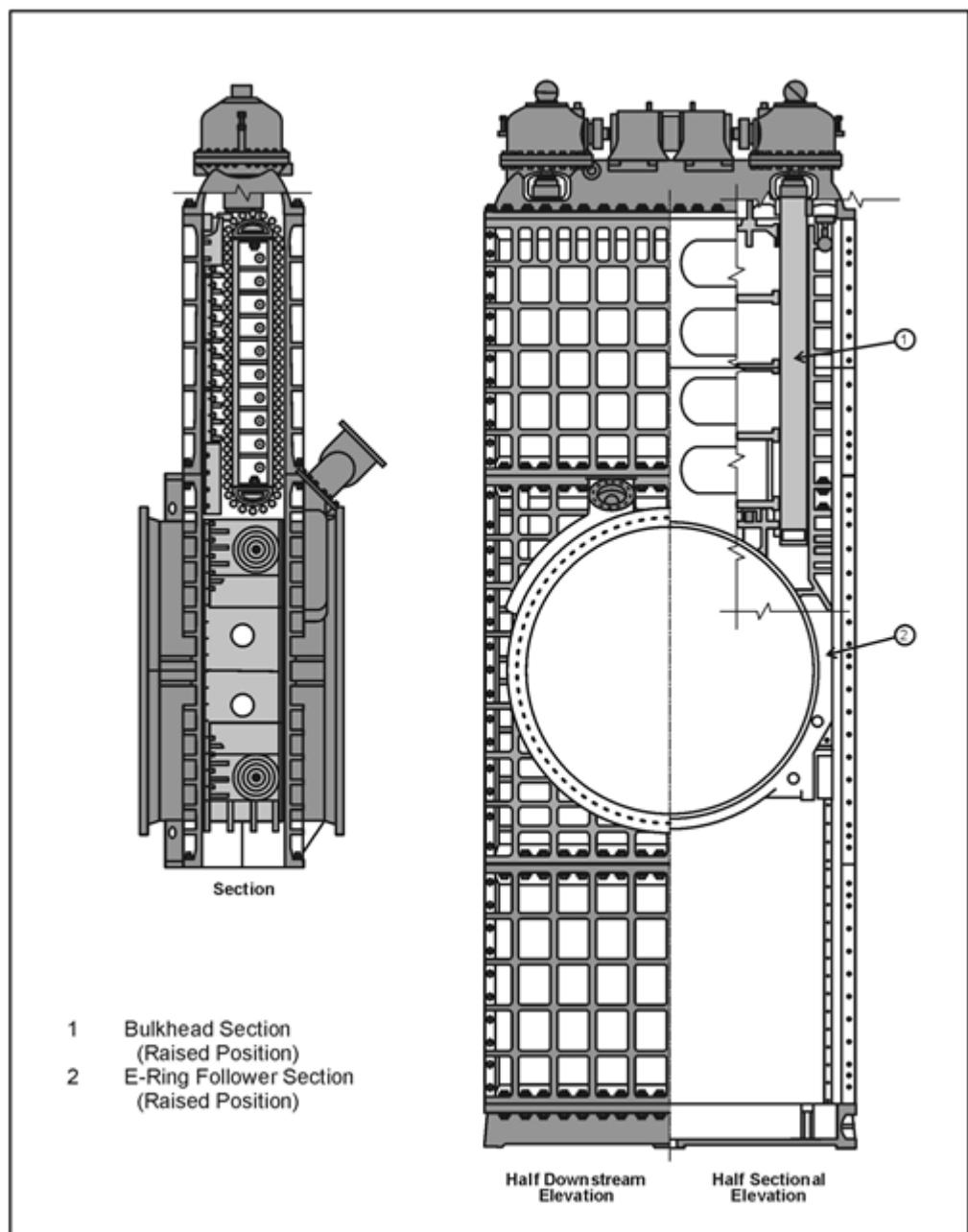
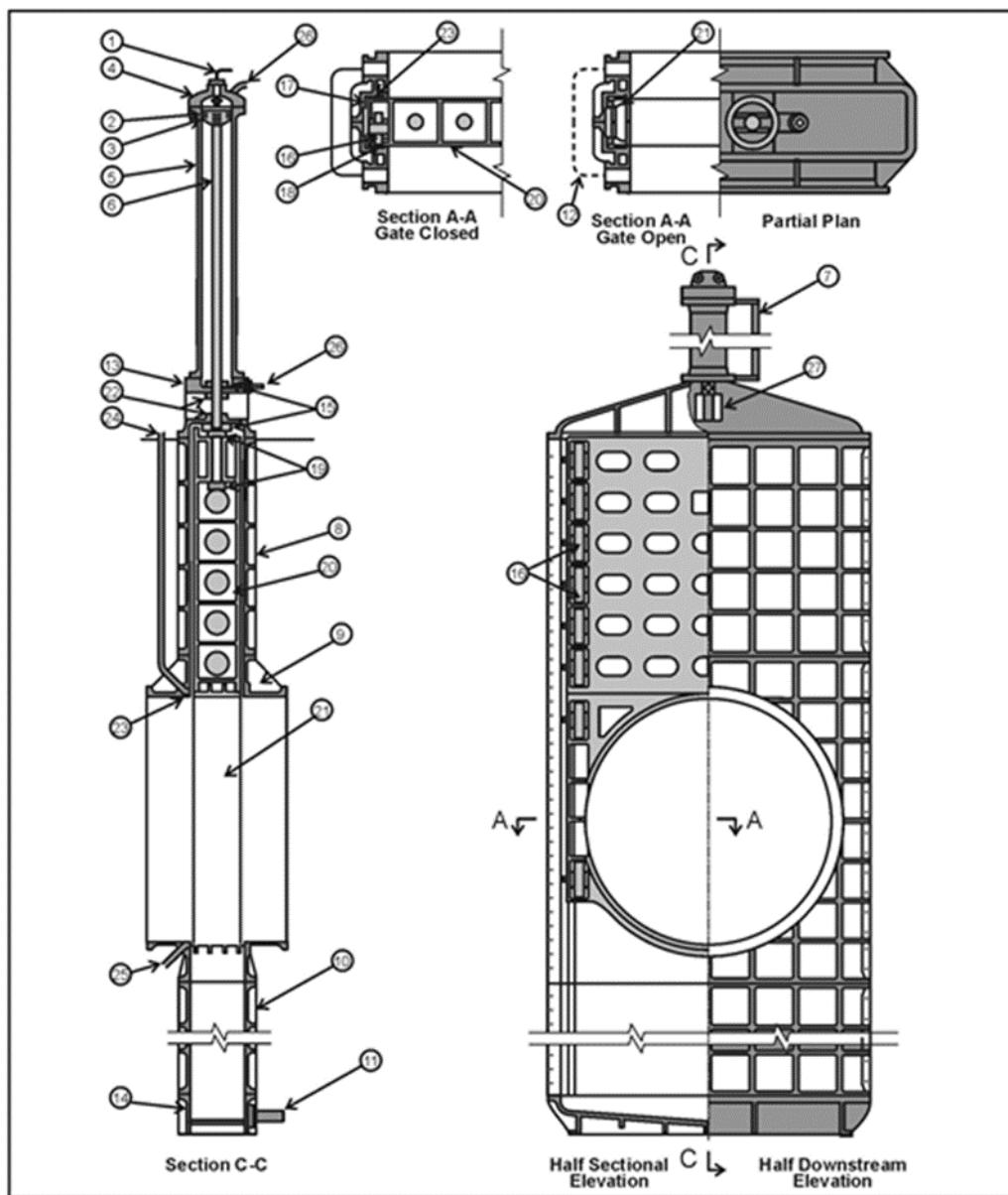


Figure 10. Ring seal gate (mechanically operated)



1	Latch Release Piston	14	Lower Bonnet Cover
2	Piston	15	Vee Packing
3	Piston Rings	16	Wheels
4	Cylinder Head	17	Guides
5	Cylinder	18	Track
6	Gate Stem	19	Stem Nuts
7	Position Indicator	20	Leaf (Bulkhead Section)
8	Upper Bonnet	21	Leaf (Follower Section)
9	Body	22	Packing Glands
10	Lower Bonnet	23	Seal Assembly
11	Drain and Sediment Flushing Pipe	24	Seal Water Pressure Line
12	By-pass Line	25	Seal Drain and Flushing Assembly
13	Upper Bonnet Cover	26	Oil Pipe Connection
		27	Access Opening for Stuffing Boxes

Figure 11. Ring seal gate (hydraulically operated)

7. *Bulkhead Gates and Stop Logs*

Bulkhead gates and stop logs are installed under balanced, no flow conditions and are used to allow the unwatering of a waterway such as an outlet pipe, penstock, or turbine draft tube. In the case of outlet pipes and penstocks, they are placed as far upstream as possible to allow the complete unwatering of the waterway and provide access to gates or valves in the waterway. Bulkhead gates and modern stop logs are both constructed of structural steel with rubber seals and are virtually identical in appearance. Stop logs are differentiated from bulkhead gates in that they employ more than two sections and, when all the sections are installed, extend above the reservoir surface. Bulkhead gates are made up of one or two sections and only cover the entrance to the waterway. Bulkhead gates and stop logs usually are installed with a gantry or mobile crane. Figures 26 and 27 show typical bulkhead gate and stop log installations.

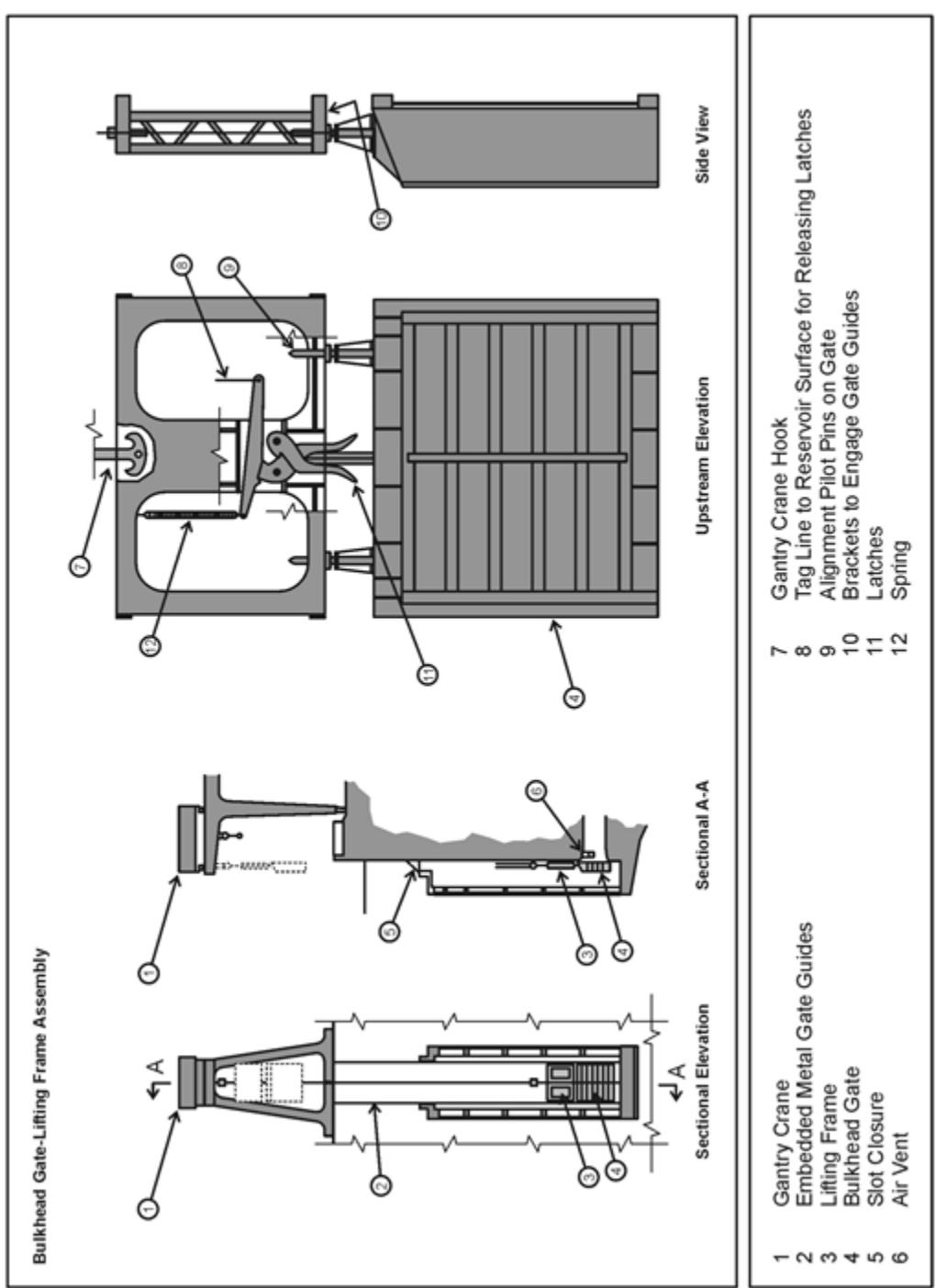
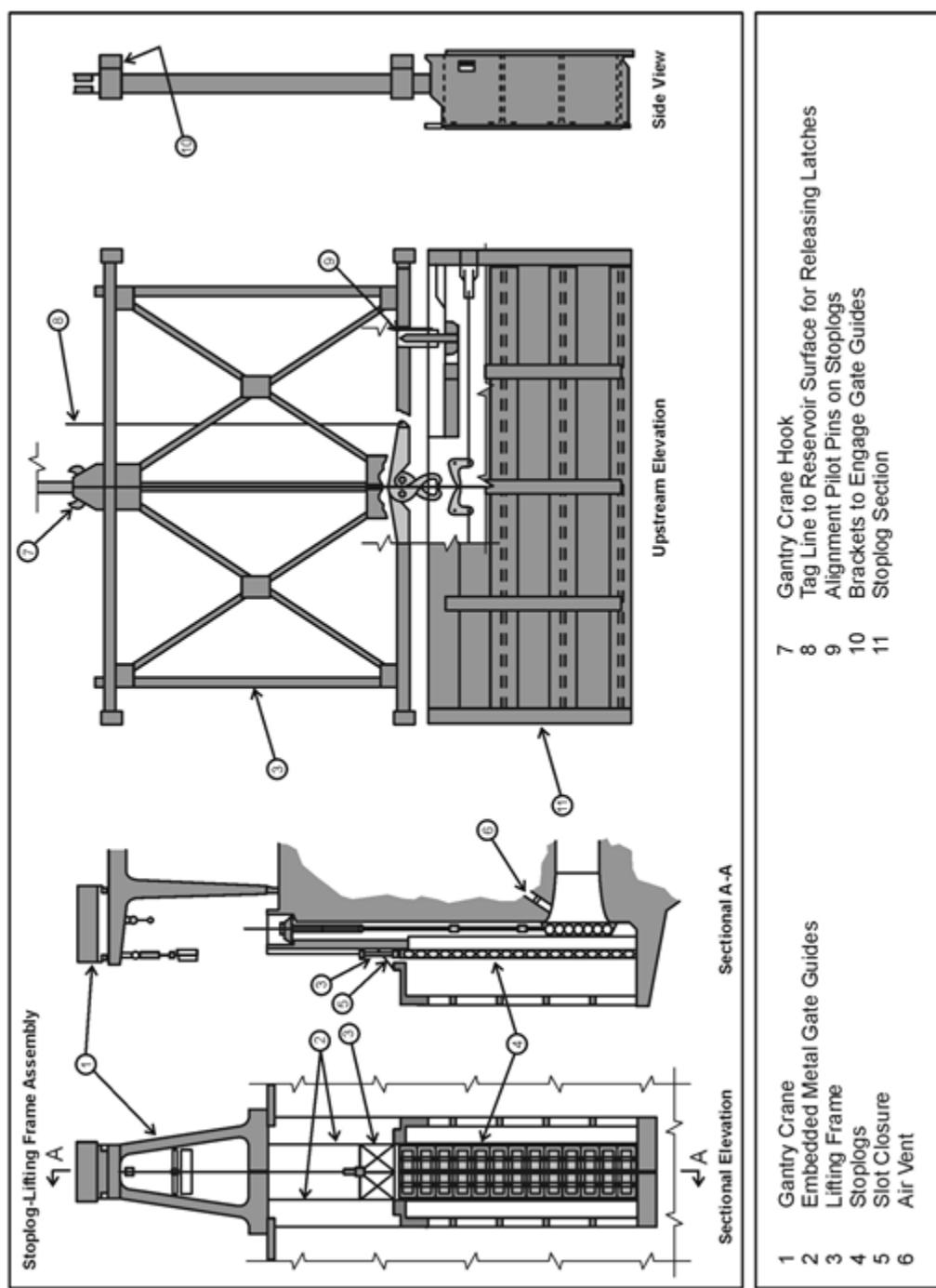


Figure 12. Bulkhead gate



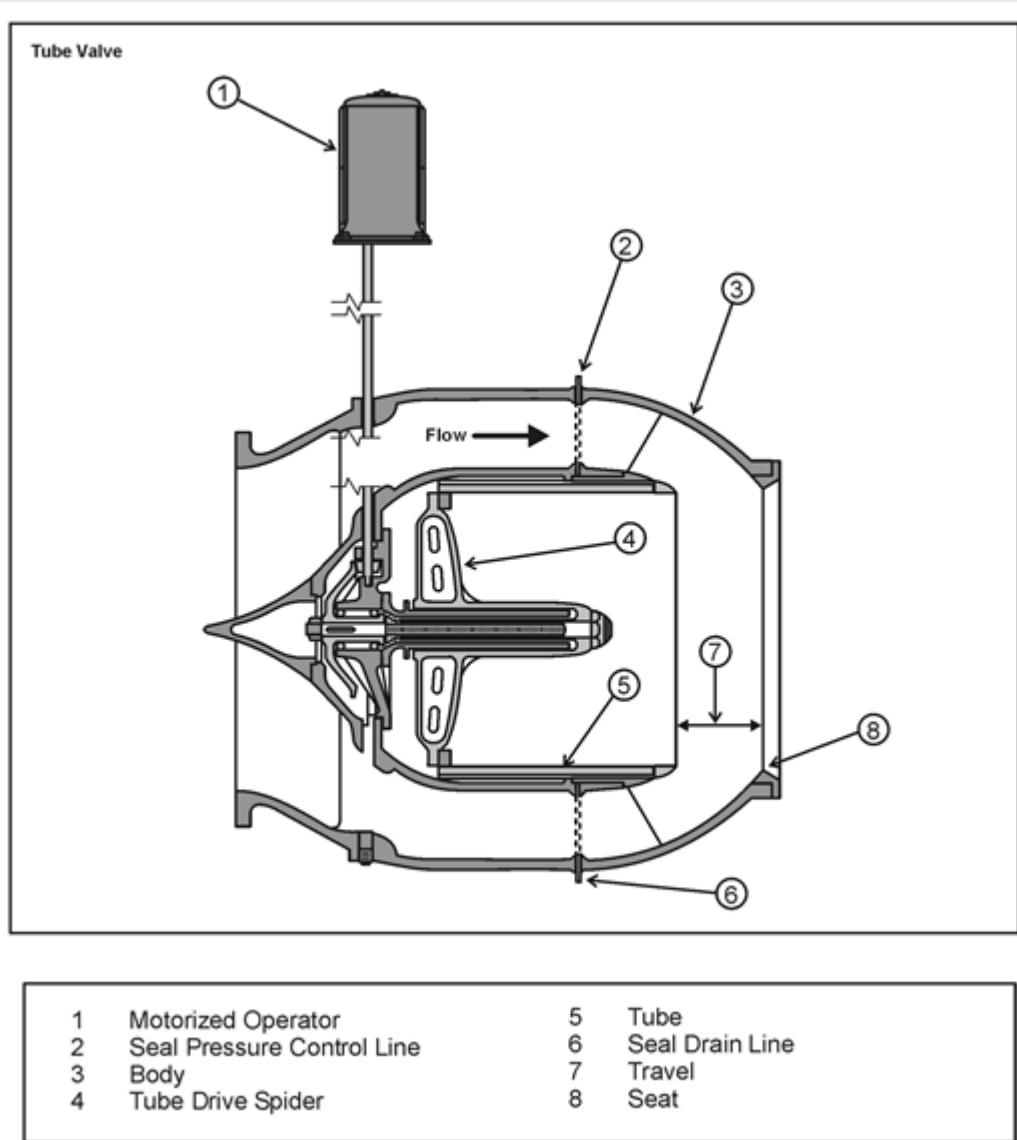
**Figure 13. Stop logs**

### 3.2.3 Valves

Valves, like gates, can regulate flow or act as guard valves to penstocks and outlet conduits. This section will describe the most common valve types in use in Reclamation facilities.

### 1. Tube Valves

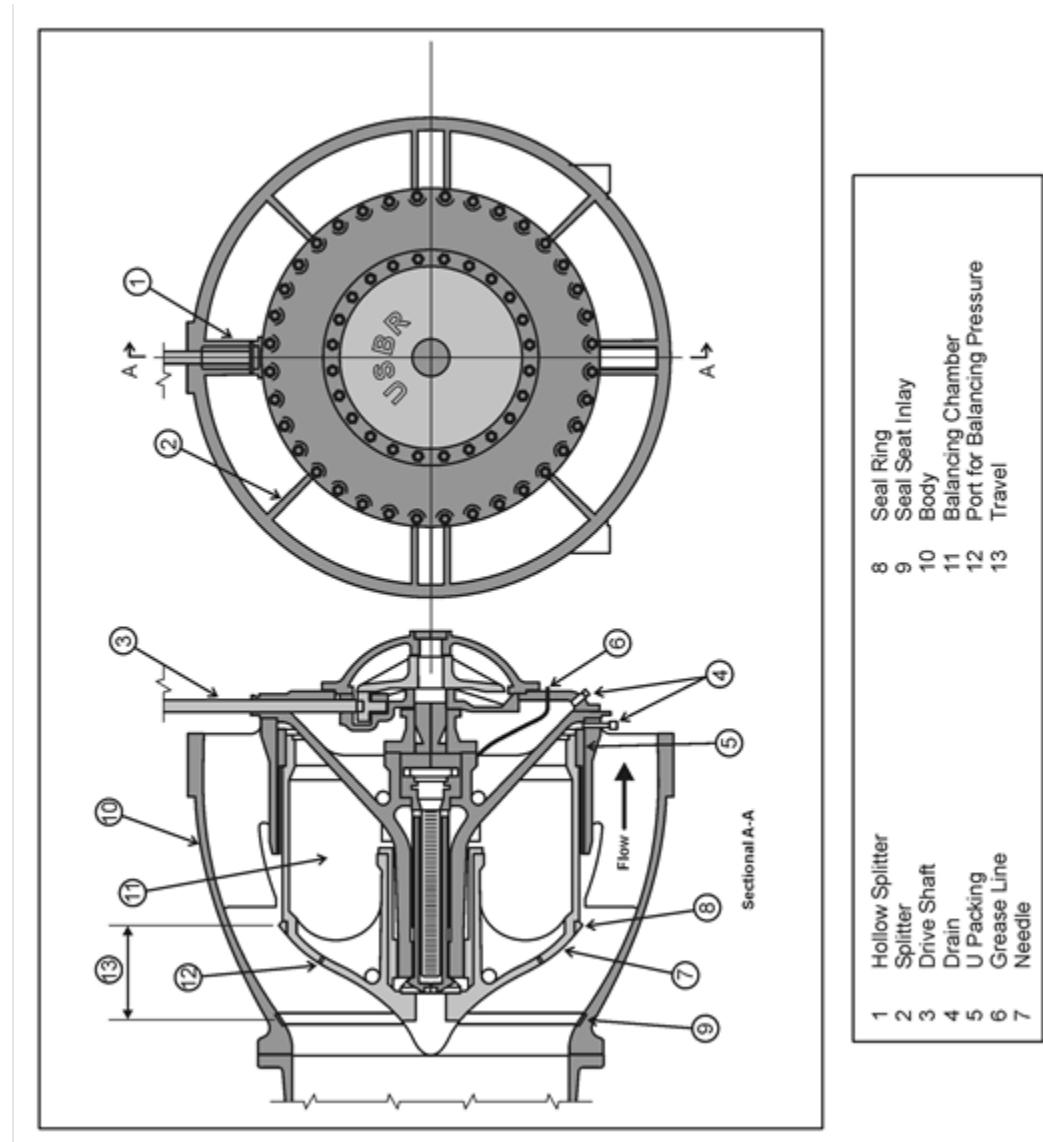
Tube valves are used primarily as regulating valves in outlet conduits. The tube valve is essentially a needle valve with the downstream needle omitted to eliminate the cavitation damage experienced with normal needle valves. A hollow cylinder or tube is actuated by a mechanical operator to seal against a valve seat on the downstream end of the valve. Like a needle valve, the fluid way converges at the outlet. A tube valve is shown in figure 28.



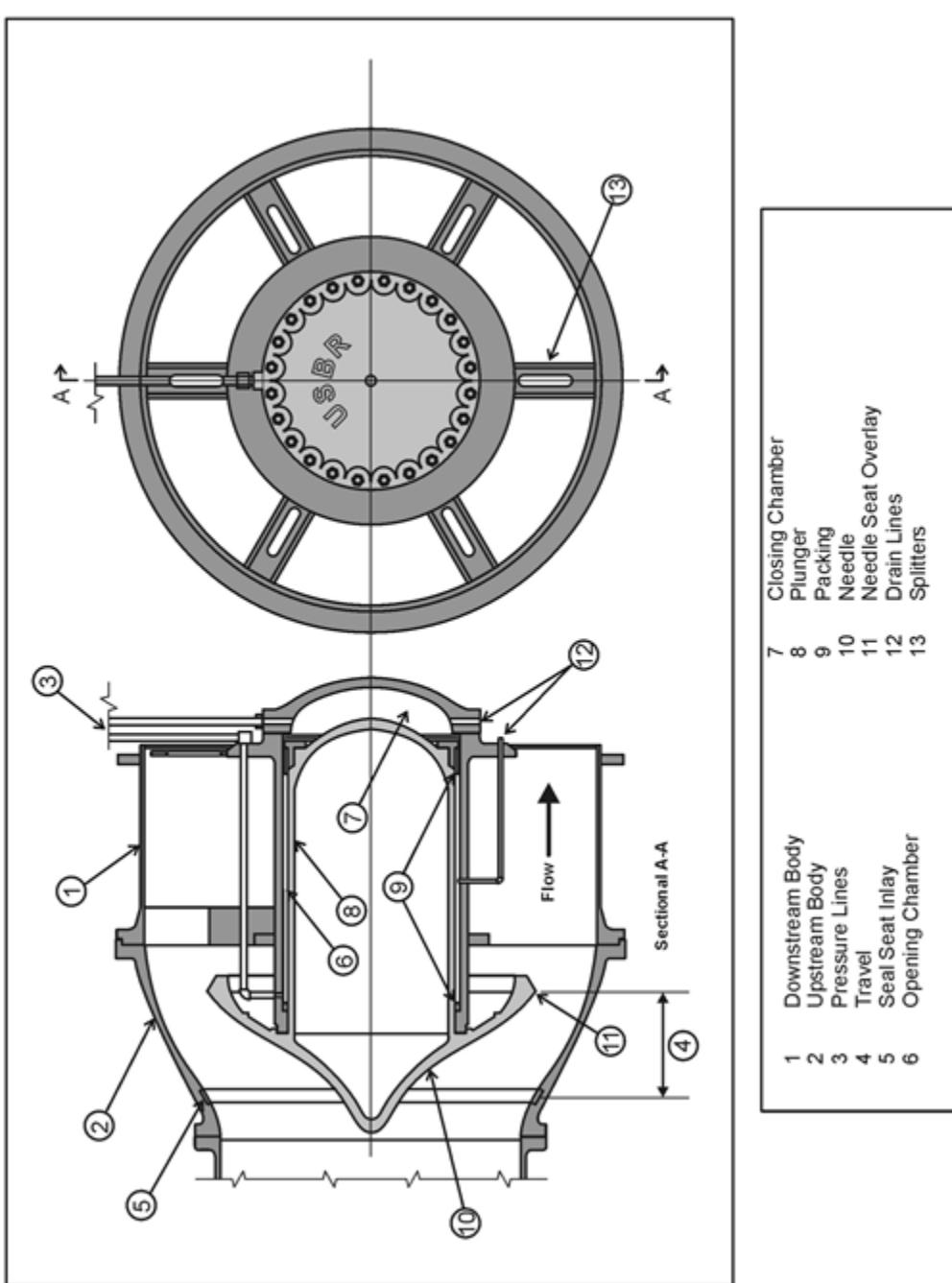
**Figure 14. Tube Valve**

### 2. Hollow-Jet Valves

Hollow-jet valves are used as regulating valves and are similar in construction to a tube valve. The closure member of the hollow-jet valve is the needle which moves upstream to seal against its valve seat. The fluid way is not converging so that the discharge is in the shape of a hollow jet. The hollow-jet valve can be operated either hydraulically or mechanically. Figures 29 and 30 are examples of hollow-jet valves.



**Figure 15. Hollow jet valve (mechanically operated)**

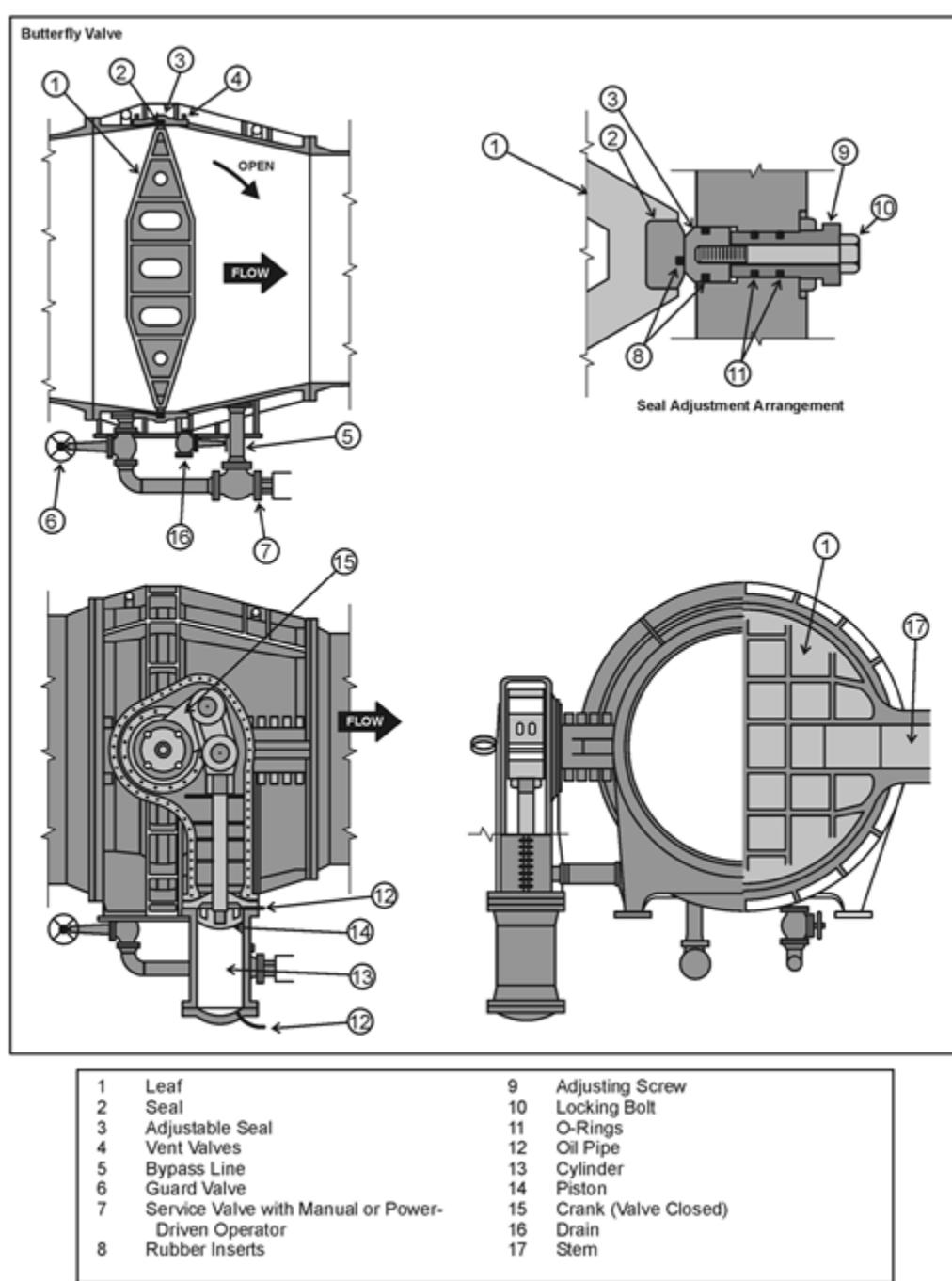


**Figure 16. Hollow jet valve (hydraulically operated)**

3. *Butterfly Valves*

Butterfly valves most commonly are used as guard valves on penstocks and outlet conduits. They normally are used for flow regulation only if the head differential across the leaf is small. The butterfly valve consists of a cylindrical or conical shaped body with a circular leaf, mounted on a horizontal or vertical shaft, perpendicular to the fluidway.

An external actuator, usually hydraulic, rotates the leaf 90 degrees to fully open or close the valve. A butterfly valve is shown in figure 31.

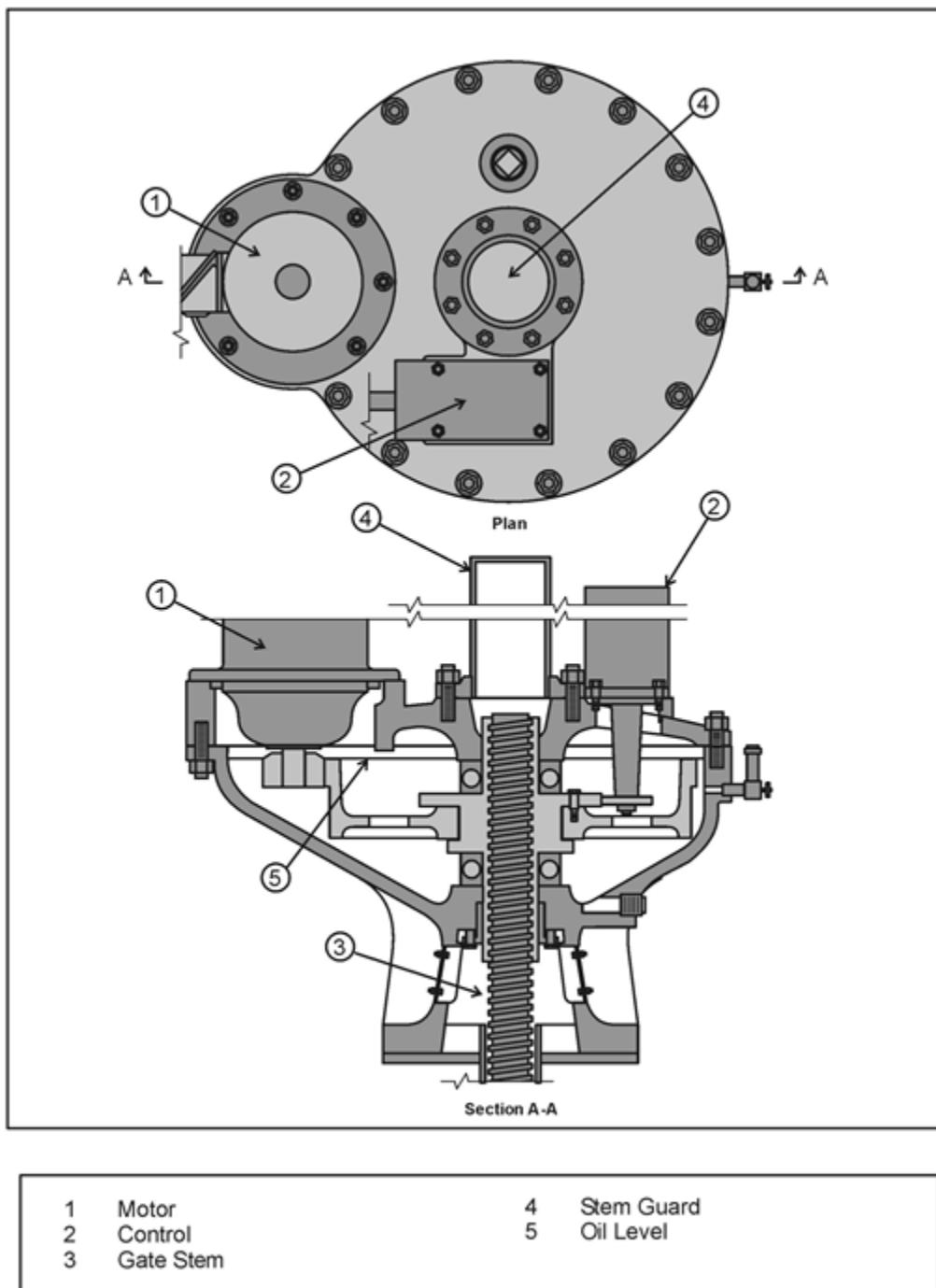


**Figure 17. Butterfly valve**

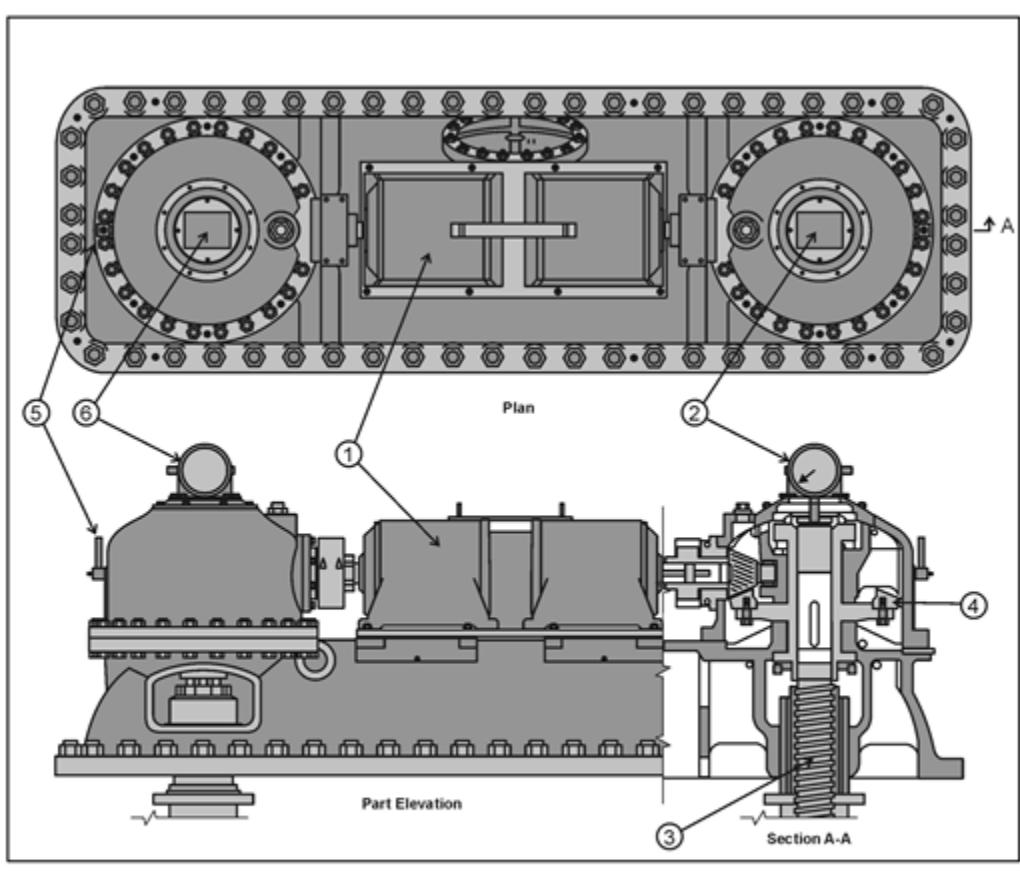
### 3.2.4 Valve and Gate Operators

#### 1) Threaded Stem Hoist

Basically, a threaded stem type hoist consists of a steel, Acme-threaded stem mated to a bronze stem nut. Depending on the application, the stem or the stem nut may be rigidly attached to the gate. In a rising stem type gate, the nut is rotated, and the stem rises with the gate. In some cases, the stem is rotated and the gate rises with the stem nut. In most cases, the hoist is electric motor driven through a system of gears. Ring-seal gates and some jet-flow gates use threaded stem type hoists with twin stems. Threaded stem hoists are shown in figures 32 and 33.



**Figure 18. Rising stem gate hoist**



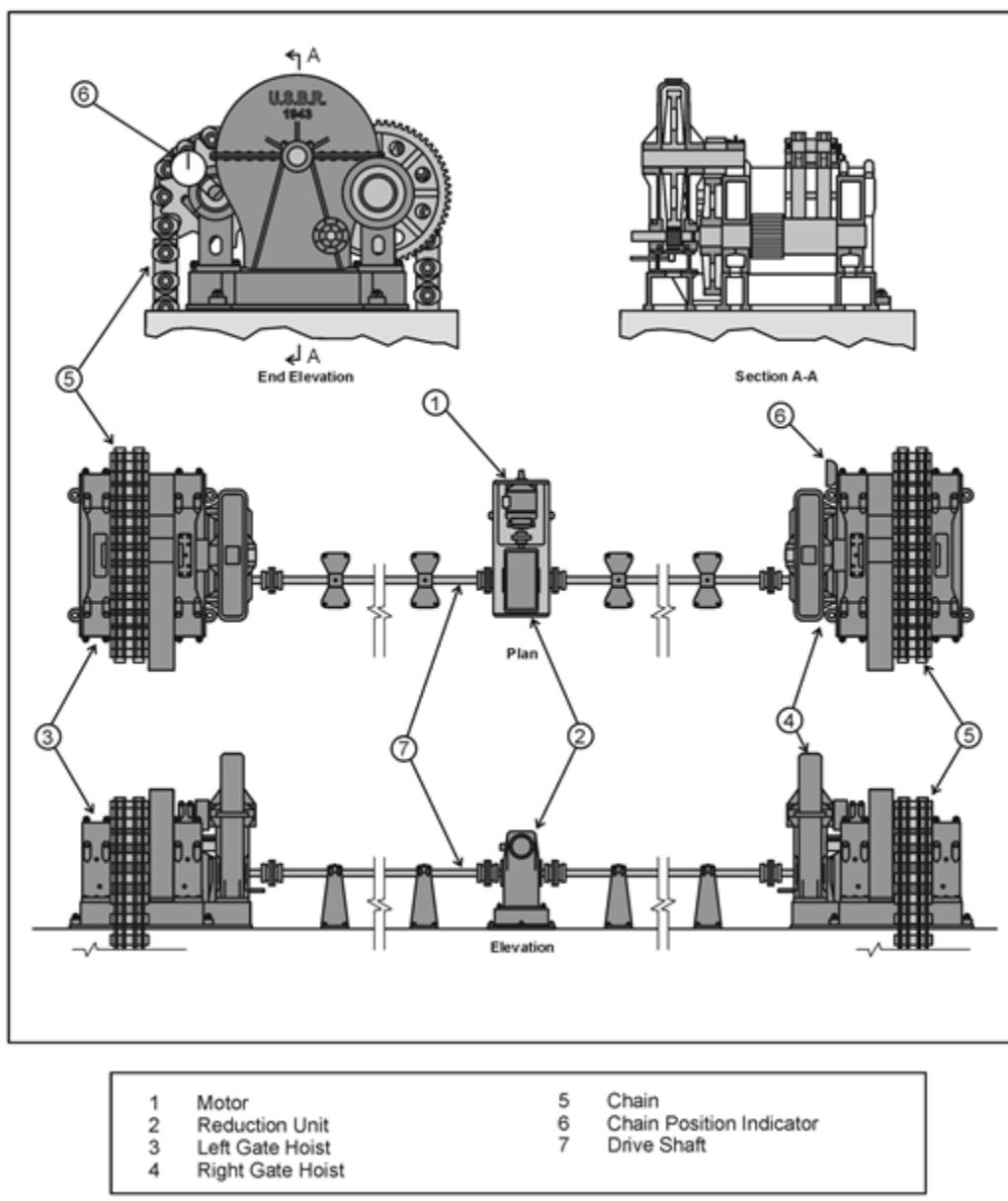
1	Motor	4	Gear
2	Gate Position Indicator	5	Oil Level Indicator
3	Gate Stem	6	Limit Switches

**Figure 19. Twin threaded stem gate hoist (nonrising stem)**

2) *Chain and Sprocket Hoist*

Chain and sprocket hoists are used to raise or lower large gates which are used infrequently. The hoists are powered by an electric motor which drives a reduction unit with two output shafts. The output shafts each drive a hoist unit with reduction gearing, drive sprocket, idler sprocket, and sprocket chain.

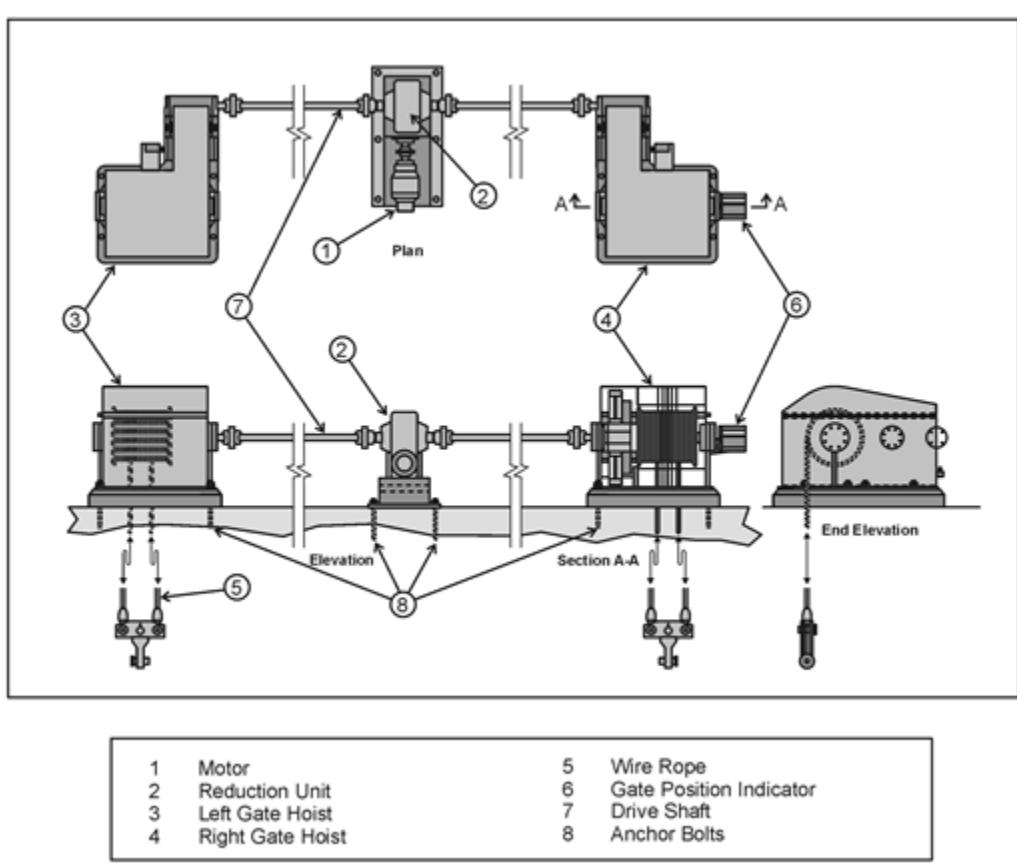
One end of each chain is attached to the gate and the other to a counter weight. A typical chain and sprocket hoist is illustrated in figure 34.



**Figure 20. Chain and sprocket hoist**

3) *Wire Rope Hoist*

Wire rope hoists are most commonly used with radial gates. Wire rope hoists normally use two drums driven by an electric motor through reduction gearing similar to the chain and sprocket hoist. A wire rope hoist is shown in figure 35.



**Figure 21. Wire rope hoist**

4) *Hydraulic Operators*

Hydraulic operators are used for a variety of gates and valves. Basically, a hydraulic system consists of an oil reservoir; electric motor driven pump; directional, relief, check, flow control, and shutoff valves; filters; and the operator itself, usually a hydraulic cylinder. Many systems use two pumps in parallel to provide a backup should one fail. The operator may be driven in both directions or it may be powered open and allowed to close by gravity. Examples of hydraulic systems are shown in figures 36 and 37, and a hydraulic cylinder is shown in figure 38.

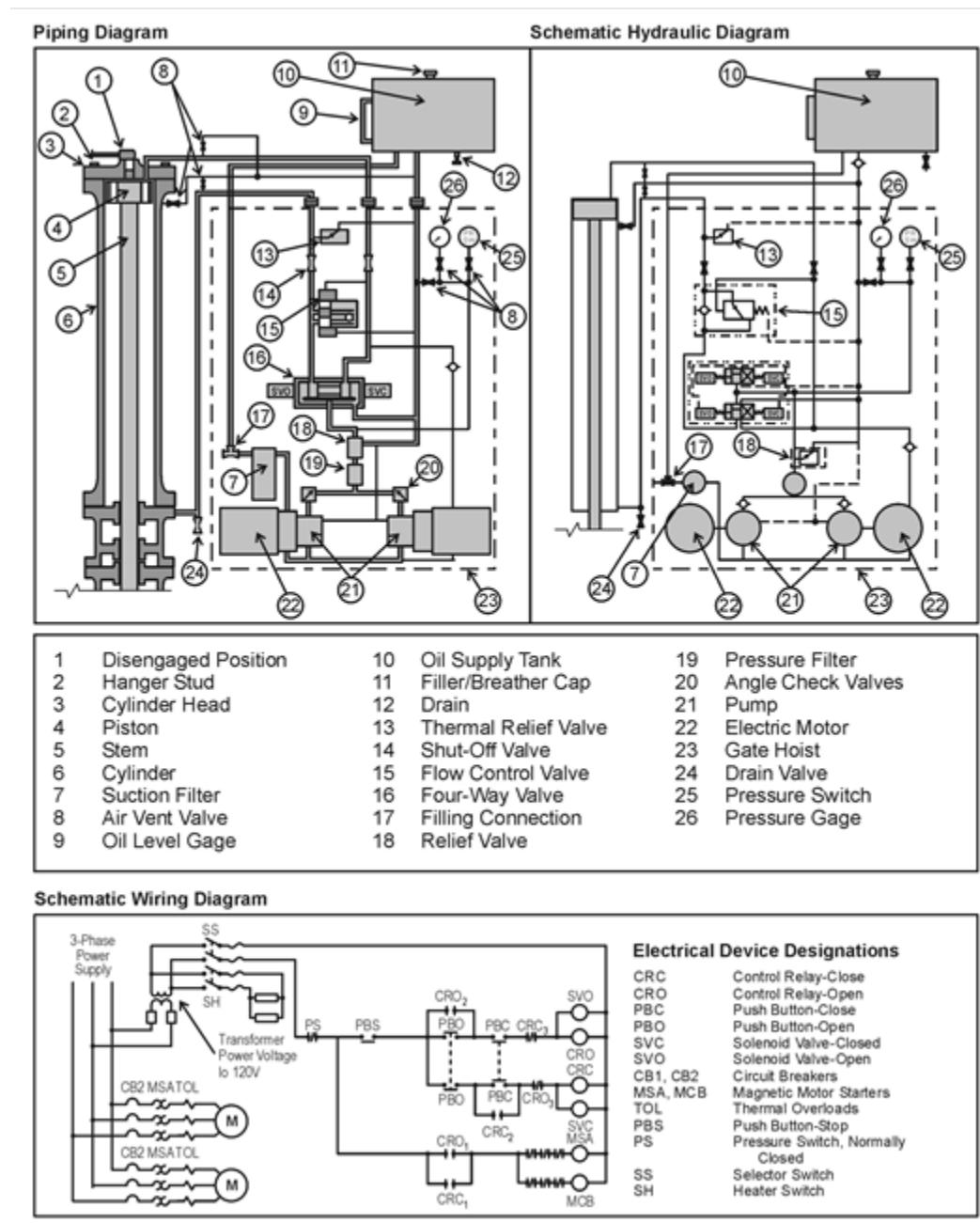


Figure 22. Typical hydraulic hoist system

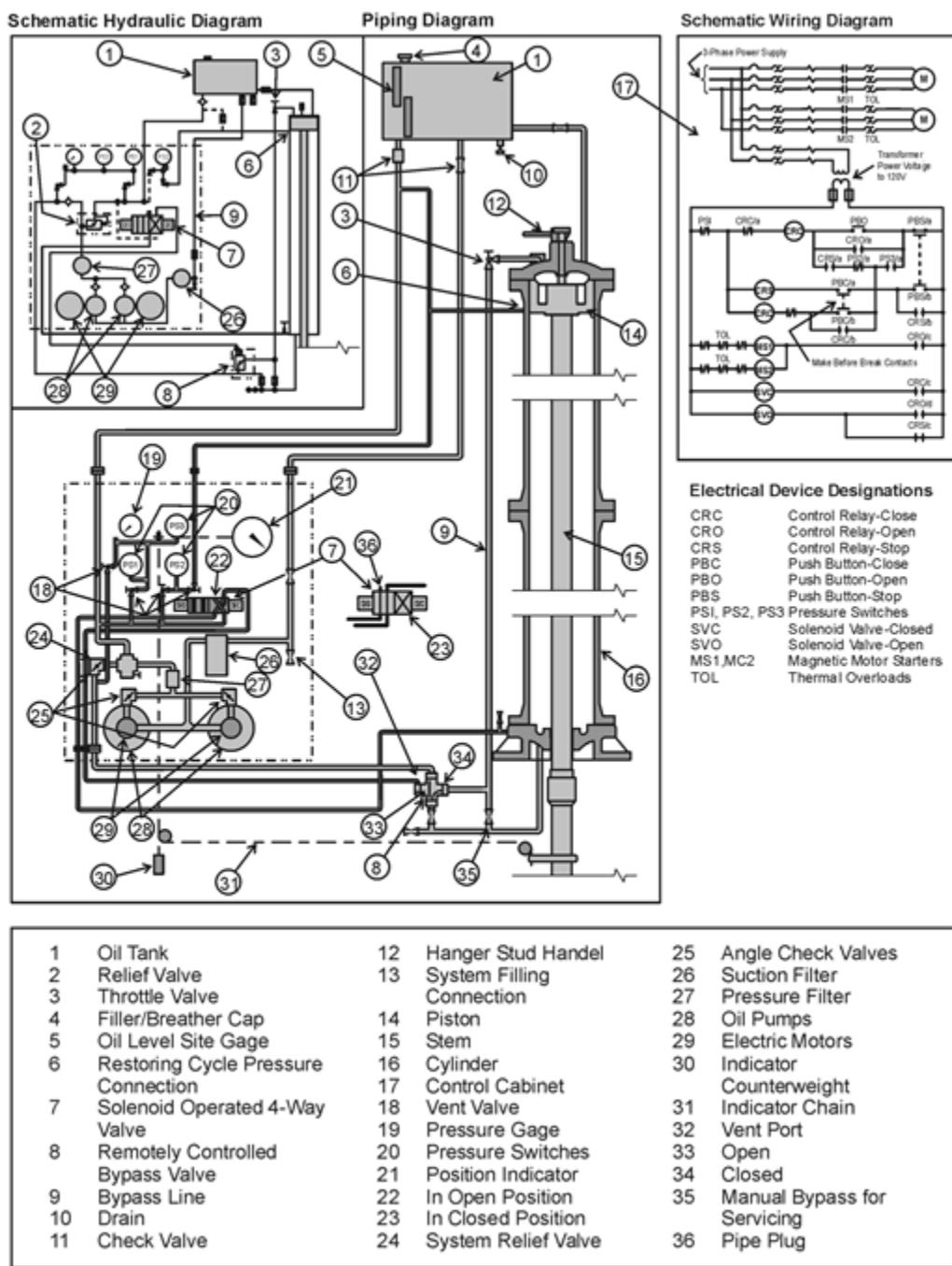


Figure 23. Typical hydraulic hoist system (gravity closing gate)

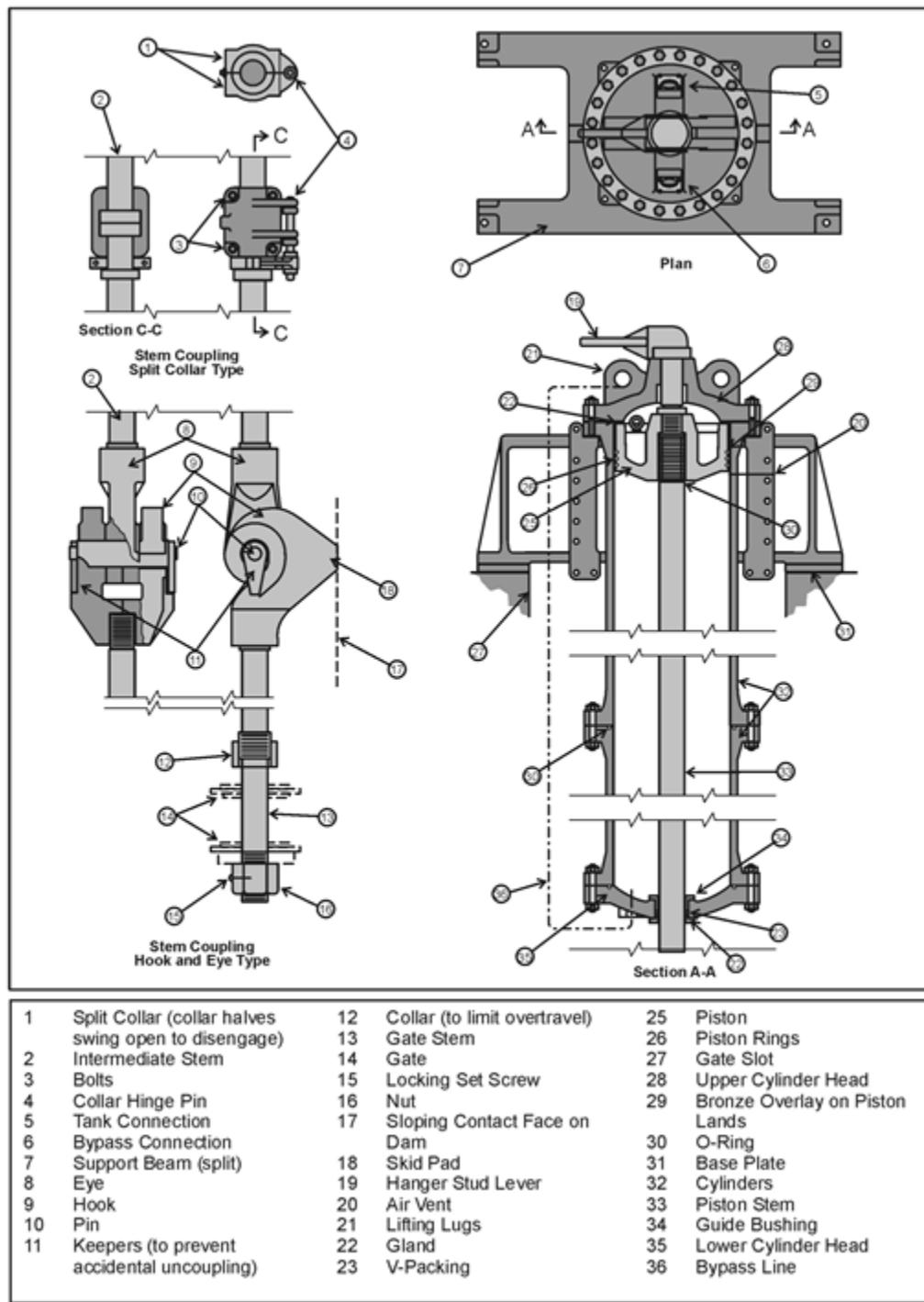


Figure 24. Typical hydraulic hoist system (hydraulic cylinders)

### **3.3 Guard Gate and Valve Closure Tests**

Unbalanced tests of all guard gates and valves are required periodically to verify gate and valve dependability and determine maintenance requirements. While some gates and valves can only be tested under balanced conditions, most should be given a simulated emergency closure test under maximum flow, unbalanced conditions.

These tests ensure that the gates/valves will operate as intended under severe, but controlled, conditions. If the gate/valve fails to operate as intended during these tests, the regulating gate/valve is still available to stop the flow. In an actual emergency situation, such as failure of regulating gate/valve or a ruptured pipe, the guard gate/valve would be the only means of stopping flow.

The gates/valves requiring simulated emergency closure tests are designed to close under full flow conditions with no damage, but it is essential that the correct test procedure be followed exactly. The test may require closing the gate/valve under unbalanced conditions or opening the gate/valve 10 percent of its total travel under unbalanced conditions. If there is any doubt about the validity of the test procedure or if a written procedure for a particular gate or valve is not available, contact the Mechanical Equipment Group, 86-68410, immediately.

The gates/valves requiring unbalanced tests are designed to close under full flow. The unbalanced testing of gates or valves of outlet works is usually scheduled every 6 years to correspond to the Comprehensive Facility Review. The unbalanced testing of penstock guard gates or valves is usually scheduled to fit into the regular maintenance schedule of the powerplant. The scheduled interval for penstock gates or valves should not exceed 10 years.

### **3.4 Turbine Pressure Relief Valves**

A few turbines in Reclamation facilities (Hoover, Flatiron, Estes, Pilot Butte, and Pole Hill) are equipped with pressure relief valves. These valves are sometimes supplied on high head Francis turbines to limit the pressure rise in the penstock following a load rejection. The relief valves are connected to the wicket gate linkage and are designed to open following a quick wicket closure, as would occur during a load rejection. The valve then will close slowly. Using pressure relief valves allows a quicker closure of the wicket gates which limits the overspeed of the unit. The design of these relief valves varies with manufacturer, but most require the penstock to be watered up to test the operation of the valve as they use water pressure to operate. Because of this requirement, the only way to test the operation of these valves is to perform a load rejection test. Some of the pressure relief valves are also designed to be operated manually so they can be used as bypass valves to allow water to be bypassed if the turbine is not in operation.

## 3.5 Auxiliary Piping Systems

Revised – Reference FIST 2-6, *Maintenance of Auxiliary Mechanical Equipment*, and the tables above in the main document section.

## 3.6 Inspection Checklist

### *Penstocks and Outlet Pipes*

Revised – Reference FIST 2-8, *Inspection of Steel Penstocks and Pressure Conduits*, and the tables above in the main document section.

### 3.6.1 Gates and Valves

Abbreviations in parenthesis refer to the types of gates or valves of a particular inspection item.

FW - Fixed Wheel Gate

RG - Radial Gate

CG - Coaster Gate

JF - Jet Flow Gate

BV - Butterfly Valve

RS - Ring-Seal Gate

SG - Slide Gate

HJ - Hollow Jet Valve

RF - Ring-Follower Gate

TPRV - Turbine Pressure Relief Valve

BH - Bulkhead Gates or Stop Logs

TV - Tube ValveEquipment	Recommended Interval	Reference
6. General Inspection (FW, CG, RS, RF, BH, JF, SG, RG, BV, HJ, TV, TPRV)	Annual, Not Scheduled	Reclamation Practice
7. Seals and Seal Seats (FW, CG, RS, RF, BH, JF, SG, RG, BV, HJ, TV, TPRV)	Annual, Not Scheduled	Reclamation Practice
8. Gate Frames and Tracks (FW, CG)	Not Scheduled	Reclamation Practice
9. Roller and Wheel Assemblies (FW, CG, RS)	Annual, Not Scheduled	Reclamation Practice
10. Pivot Pins and Hinges (RG)	Annual	Reclamation Practice

11. Gate Frames and Bonnets (RS, RF, JF, SG)	Annual, Not Scheduled	Reclamation Practice
12. Gate Leaf, Skin Plates, and Structural Members (FW, CG, RS, RF, BH, JF, SG, RG, BV)	Annual, Not Scheduled	Reclamation Practice
13. Valve Body (BV, HJ, TV) and Valve Needle or Tube (HJ, TV, TPRV)	Annual, Not Scheduled	Reclamation Practice
14. Threaded Stem Hoist and Mechanical Operators (FW, CG, RS, RF, JF, SG, HJ, TV)	Annual, Not Scheduled	Reclamation Practice
15. Chain Hoists (FW, CG, RG)	Annual, Not Scheduled	Reclamation Practice American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/ American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) B30.16
16. Wire Rope Hoists (FW, CG, BH, RG)	Annual, Not Scheduled	Reclamation Practice ANSI/ASME B30.7
17. Hydraulic Hoists (FW, CG, RS, RF, JF, SG, BV, HJ)	Annual, Not Scheduled	Reclamation Practice
18. Balanced Closure Tests (FW, CG, RS, RF, SG, RG, BV)	Annual	Reclamation Practice
19. Unbalanced Tests (FW, CG, RS, RF, SG, RG, BV)	Outlet Works – 6 Years Penstock – Not to Exceed 10 Years	Reclamation Practice
20. Turbine Pressure Relief Valve Operational Tests	Annual, Not to Exceed 10 Years	Reclamation Practice

### **3.6.2 Penstocks, Outlet Pipes**

Revised – Reference FIST 2-8, *Inspection of Steel Penstocks and Pressure Conduits*, and the tables above in the main document section.

### **3.6.3 Gates and Valves**

#### *1. General Inspection*

*(FW, CG, RS, RF, BH, JF, SG, RG, BV, HJ, TV, TPRV)*

*Annual.* Inspect exposed and accessible components for corrosion, deterioration of paint, or any other damage. Unwater penstock or water conduit and inspect downstream

portion of gate or valve. Where guard gates are available, inspect upstream portion as well. If possible, operate gate through its full range of travel.

*Not Scheduled.* Install stop logs or bulkhead gates to inspect portions of gates or valves normally inaccessible. Remove or disassemble gate or valve as necessary to replace or renew seals or guides, to sandblast and repaint, or to repair any other damage.

## 2. *Seals and Seal Seats*

*(FW, CG, RS, RF, BH, JF, SG, RG, BV, HJ, TV, TPRV)*

*Annual.* Check for excessive leakage. Adjust seals or schedule maintenance as required. Leakage, especially through high-pressure gates or valves, can cause further damage if not corrected. Where accessible, check rubber seals for cracking or other signs of deterioration and bronze seals for wear, cavitation erosion, or galling. Check operation of greasing systems where applicable.

*Not Scheduled.* Unwater as required and check for damaged or missing seals, seal retainers, and bolts. Check that water actuated seals are free to move and that water lines and ports are clear. Check seal seats, wallplates, gate sills, and adjacent concrete for wear or other damage. Look for signs of misalignment, such as uneven wear on the seals or seal seats.

## 3. *Gate Frames and Tracks*

*(FW, CG)*

*Not Scheduled.* In most cases, a thorough inspection of the tracks and gate frames will require installing bulkhead gates or stop logs or using divers or a remote controlled underwater vehicle. The tracks for the rollers or wheels should be checked for deformation, corrosion, and missing clamps or bolts. The gate frame should be checked for deformation, corrosion, cavitation damage, and any missing bolts.

## 4. *Roller and Wheel Assemblies*

*(FW, CG, RS)*

*Annual.* Lubricate wheels and rollers of gates with manual grease fittings.

*Not Scheduled.* Removal or disassembly of the gate is usually required for inspection of roller and wheel assemblies. Roller assemblies should be checked for any damaged rollers, pins, or links. Rollers and wheels should be checked for free movement and for flat spots or other indications that the rollers or wheels have been sliding and not rolling. Antifriction bearings (roller or ball bearings) should be checked for free rotation, adequate lubrication, and corrosion and should be replaced as necessary. Bronze bushings should be checked for scoring or adequate lubrication. Bearing seals should be replaced if there is any sign of damage. The bearing journal should be checked for scoring, corrosion, or any other damage. The bearing journal of self-lubricated bushings can sometimes corrode due to an electrolytic reaction from the graphite in the bushing. If this is noted, the bushings should be replaced with a non-graphite, self-lubricated bushing or a plain bronze bushing with some type of lubrication system.

5. *Pivot Pins and Hinges*

*(RG)*

*Annual.* Check general condition of pivot pin or hinge, looking for bent or damaged parts. Check that pivot pins are properly lubricated. Inspect concrete adjacent to anchors or pivot pins for cracking or spalling.

6. *Gate Frames and Bonnet*

*(RS, RF, JF, SG)*

*Annual.* If accessible, inspect interior of fluidway, checking for any cavitation erosion, corrosion, or other damage. Check bonnet cover for cracks or leaky gaskets. Check for excessive leakage past gate stem and position indicator rod packing and tighten as required. If equipped with a lower bonnet drain, flush silt from bottom of bonnet.

*Not Scheduled.* Disassemble gate and inspect for any cracks, corrosion, cavitation erosion, or any other damage. Sandblast or clean by acceptable method and paint interior of bonnet as necessary.

7. *Gate Leaf, Skin Plates, and Structural Members*

*(FW, CG, RS, RF, BH, JF, SG, RG, BV)*

*Annual.* Accessible portions should be checked for corrosion, cavitation erosion, missing or damaged bolts or rivets, or any other damage. Check flexible drain hoses of drum gates to ensure they are clear and unplugged.

*Not Scheduled.* Disassemble gate or install bulkhead gates and unwater to allow inspection of entire gate or gate leaf. Check bottom of the gate leaf or gate for cavitation erosion. Sandblast or clean by acceptable method and paint as necessary. Check structural members for cracked welds, missing or damaged bolts or rivets, or any other damage. On drum gates and some radial gates, check interior of gate for leaks, plugged drain holes, and general condition. Drum gate flexible drain hoses should be cleaned with a rotary drain cleaner.

8. *Valve Body (BV, HJ, TV) and Valve Needle or Tube (HJ, TV, TPRV)*

*Annual.* Exterior of valve should be checked for leakage, cracks, and corrosion. If accessible, interior of valve should be checked for corrosion, cavitation erosion, scale buildup that may interfere with valve movement or sealing, and any other damage. Check lubrication to bearings and the oil level of gear boxes.

*Not Scheduled.* Unwater water conduit or penstock or disassemble valve to allow inspection of all valve components. Check for parts damaged by cavitation erosion or corrosion. Check water and oil seals and replace as necessary. Polished surfaces of hydraulically operated hollow jet valves should be checked for any damage and built up

by welding or other process, remachined, and repolished if necessary. Check bearings and bronze seal rings for wear or other damage and replace if necessary.

### 3.6.4 Gate and Valve Operators and Hoists

#### 9. Threaded Stem Hoist and Mechanical Operators (FW, CG, RS, RF, JF, SG, CY, HJ, TV)

*Annual.* Inspect gear cases for leaks or other damage. Check motor coupling for misalignment. Check oil in gear boxes for water contamination and for proper level. Check grease coated gears, stems, and stem nuts for dirt or dust contamination of grease. Check gears, stem, and stem nut for wear, galling, or other damage. Grease bearings or other components equipped with grease fittings, being careful not to overgrease and damage grease seals. During operational test, check for unusual or excessive vibration or noise.

*Not Scheduled.* Drain gear boxes and refill with new oil. Grease coated gears and stems should be cleaned and recoated with new grease. Disassemble as required to check condition of gears, bearings, or other components normally inaccessible.

#### 10. Chain Hoists

(FW, CG, RG)

*Annual.* Hoists should be inspected in accordance to ANSI/ASME B30.16, Overhead Hoists. Inspect chain for corrosion and deformed chain links or pins. Check sprocket for damaged teeth. Apply appropriate lubricant to chain. Check oil in gear boxes for water contamination and for proper level. Check condition of grease for dirt or dust contamination on grease-coated gears. Grease sheave, drum, and gear shaft bearings equipped with grease fittings, being careful not to overgrease and damage grease seals. Check gears for uneven wear, galling, or signs of misalignment. Check brake shoes and brake drums for signs of overheating or other damage.

*Not Scheduled.* Drain gear boxes and refill with new oil. Grease-coated gears should be cleaned and recoated with new grease. Disassemble as required to check condition of gears, bearings, or other components normally inaccessible.

#### 11. Wire Rope Hoists

(FW, CG, BH, RG)

*Annual.* Hoists should be inspected in accordance to ANSI/ASME B30.7, Base Mounted Drum Hoists. Inspect wire rope for broken wires, worn or abraded wires, corrosion, and crushed or flattened strands. See section 6, "Cranes, Hoists, and Rigging Equipment," for replacement requirements. Inspect rope drum and sheaves for wear and spooling characteristics of the drum. If required, apply lubricant to entire length of wire rope. Check oil in gear boxes for water contamination and for proper level. Grease sheave, drum, and gear shaft bearings equipped with grease fittings. Check gears for uneven

wear, galling, or signs of misalignment. Check condition of brake shoes and brake drums for signs of overheating or other damage.

*Not Scheduled.* Drain gear boxes and refill with new oil. Grease-coated gears should be cleaned and recoated with new grease.

#### 12. *Hydraulic Hoists*

(FW, CG, RS, RF, JF, SG, CY, BV, HJ)

*Annual.* Check entire hydraulic system for leaks, including piping, valves, and packing. Drain accumulations of water and sediment from oil reservoir and lower end of hydraulic cylinders. Prior to scheduled maintenance, take oil sample after operating system for sufficient time to allow the oil and any contaminants to mix. Oil sample should be checked for water content, viscosity, acidity, and solid contaminants. Based on results of oil tests, drain system, filter oil, and clean oil reservoir with lint free rags. Add oil to system if it is necessary to bring the oil to the proper level, making sure that the added oil is exactly the same type and viscosity as the oil in the system. Clean or replace oil filters. Calibrate pressure gauges and pressure switches. Check setting and operation of pressure relief valves. Operate gate or valve through a complete open-close cycle under balanced conditions, checking the opening or closing times, and noting any unusual or excessive noise or vibration. If there is a significant increase in either the opening or closing time, determine the reason for increase. Check surface condition of piston stem for rusting, scoring, or other condition that could impair operation or cause leakage. Check position indicators to ensure wire rope and sheaves or chains and sprockets move freely.

*Not Scheduled.* Remove cylinder head and inspect cylinder wall looking for signs of corrosion pitting or scoring. Check condition of stems and stem couplings, applying a coating of waterproof grease to couplings normally submerged or exposed to moisture.

### 3.6.5    **Guard Gate and Valve Closure Tests**

#### 13. *Balanced Closure Tests*

(FW, CG, RS, RF, SG, RG, BV)

*Annual.* Perform gate or valve closure test under balanced, no flow conditions following the test procedure for the particular gate or valve being tested. Test procedure should be for the specific gate or valve being tested and not a similar one. Contact the Mechanical Equipment Group, 86-68410, if a procedure is not available or if there is any uncertainty about the procedure that is available. Record opening and closing times, pressures for hydraulic systems, and amperage for electric hoists.

#### 14. *Unbalanced Tests*

(FW, CG, RS, RF, SG, RG)

*Outlet Works – 6 Years, Penstocks – Not to Exceed 10 years.* Perform gate or valve test following the test procedure for the gate or valve being tested. Use caution when conducting this type of test. Test procedure should be for the specific gate or valve being tested and not a similar one. Contact the Mechanical Equipment Group, 86-68410, if a procedure is not available or if there is any uncertainty about the procedure that is available.

### **3.6.6    Turbine Pressure Relief Valves Operational Tests**

#### *15. Operational Tests*

*Annual.* If manual operation is possible, open and close valve with turbine shut down. Check that valve opens smoothly and closes with minimal leakage.

*Not to Exceed 10 Years.* Perform full load rejection test to determine if the pressure relief valve is operating satisfactorily. Instrumentation should include gate position, relief valve position, relief valve dashpot position, penstock pressure, and unit speed. Check maximum pressure rise and closing time of relief valve.

### **3.6.7    Auxiliary Piping Systems**

Revised – Reference FIST 2-6, *Maintenance of Auxiliary Mechanical Equipment*, and the tables above in the main document section.

## 4.0 Governors

Revised – Reference FIST 2-3, *Maintenance of Mechanical and Digital Governors for Hydroelectric Units*, and the tables above in the main document section.

## 5.0 Air Compressors

Revised – Reference FIST 2-6, *Maintenance of Auxiliary Mechanical Equipment*, and the tables above in the main document section.

# 6.0 Cranes, Hoists, Rigging Equipment, and Elevators

## 6.1 General

Due to the potential for injury to personnel and damage to equipment, the inspection and maintenance of cranes and hoists is very important. A preventive maintenance and inspection program based on Government and Reclamation regulations, manufacturer's recommendations, and applicable industry standards is required for all cranes, hoists, or other lifting devices. This program should be well documented with detailed records of the inspections and maintenance performed on the equipment.

## 6.2 Standards and References

Section 19 of Reclamation Safety and Health Standards lists recommended safety practices for crane and hoisting equipment for Reclamation forces. There are two national organizations that also set laws and regulate safe crane and hoist safety practices. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the American National Standards Institute publish the following regulations and standards that are applicable to crane safety and setting up an inspection and maintenance program for cranes and hoists.

### 6.2.1 Reclamation Standards

- Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, section 18, section 19, and appendices D through F.

### 6.2.2 OSHA Regulations

OSHA publishes its laws and regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) (29 CFR). OSHA crane standards are divided in to three different parts: General Industry (Part 1910), Construction (Part 1926), and Maritime (Parts 1917 and 1918). The relevant standard(s) should be used for the type of activity being performed. Applicable sections pertaining to cranes and hoists are:

- 1910.179 “Overhead and Gantry Cranes”
- 1910.180 “Crawler, Locomotive, and Truck Cranes”
- 1910.181 “Derricks”
- 1910.184 “Slings”
- 1926.251 “Rigging Equipment for Material Handling”
- 1926.550 “Cranes and Derricks”

- 1926.753 “Hoisting and Rigging”

OSHA regulations are law and require strict compliance.

### **6.2.3 ANSI/ASME Standards**

Some of the more commonly used standards for cranes found in power and pumping plants are:

- ANSI/ASME B30.2 “Overhead and Gantry Cranes (Top Running Bridge, Single or Multiple Girder, Top Running Trolley Hoist)”
- ANSI/ASME B30.5 “Mobile and Locomotive Cranes”
- ANSI/ASME B30.7 “Base-Mounted Drum Hoists”
- ANSI/ASME B30.9 “Slings”
- ANSI/ASME B30.10 “Hooks”
- ANSI/ASME B30.11 “Monorails and Underhung Cranes”
- ANSI/ASME B30.16 “Overhead Hoists (Underhung)”
- ANSI/ASME B30.17 “Overhead and Gantry Cranes (Top Running Bridge, Single Girder, Underhung Hoist)”
- ANSI/ASME B30.19 “Cableways”
- ANSI/ASME B30.20 “Below-the-Hook Lifting Devices”
- ANSI/ASME B30.21 “Manually Lever Operated Hoists”
- ANSI/ASME B30.22 “Articulating Boom Cranes”
- ANSI/ASME B30.23 “Personnel Lifting Systems”
- ANSI/ASME B30.26 “Rigging”

Although adherence to ANSI/ASME rules and regulations are voluntary, their authority sets legal precedence.

Certain States also have agencies to control safety practices of cranes and hoists. The States of California and Washington require adherence to the California Occupational Safety and Health Regulations (CAL/OSHA) and the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Administration (WISHA), respectively. Other States are working on creating similar agencies. States with agencies such as CAL/OSHA often require adherence to the ANSI/ASME B30 documents; thus, they become law in those States.

The laws and standards and regulations for the different authorities vary considerably and are changed or revised on a frequent basis.

Reclamation’s policy is that if there is a difference between any provisions of these laws, standards and regulations, State plans, or manufacturer’s instructions, the more stringent provision will apply.

## 6.3 New Versus Existing Cranes

New cranes constructed, installed, inspected, tested, operated, and maintained shall conform to the requirements of the latest requirements of set standards and regulations. It is not the intent that older, existing cranes necessarily be retrofitted to meet current standards; however, when an item is being modified, its requirements shall be reviewed relative to the latest standards and regulations. The need to meet the current requirement shall be evaluated by a qualified person. Cranes are required to be compliant with the accepted standard used at the time of its installation. The user should recognize that sometimes upgrades or retrofits to older and existing cranes may be prudent to perform, if for no other reason than to protect personnel using the crane, the crane equipment, and the user from legal liability.

## 6.4 Crane Types

This chapter summarizes operation, maintenance, inspection, and testing recommendations for common overhead and gantry cranes, hoists, rigging, wire rope and slings, and rigging hardware. The O&M requirements for cranes, rigging, and other accessories vary depending on the type of crane, hoisting equipment, or component. Due to the extreme variation in types of crane and hoisting equipment available and the infrequency that some of these types would be found in power and pumping plant facilities, this document will not at this time describe safety and maintenance requirements and techniques for less commonly used crane types. Included in this list are mobile and locomotive cranes; portal, tower, and pillar cranes; floating cranes and derricks; material and personnel hoists; manlifts; draglines; A-frame trucks; and similar machines. For specific requirements and regulations regarding this equipment, the user should reference Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, OSHA 1910, the related ANSI/ASME standard as described in section 6.2, specific State regulations and guidelines, and the manufacturer's instructions for that piece of equipment.

## 6.5 Inspections

Crane inspections are required at regular intervals. Inspection requirements are derived and defined in detail in Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, OSHA 1910, ANSI B30, State regulations, manufacturer's recommendations, and the rigging standards. Specific types of inspections are required on all cranes and hoists at prescribed intervals. The inspection criteria and interval differ between authorities and the duty cycle of the crane or hoist. For a more complete description of inspection techniques, requirements, and frequency, refer to the pertinent documents stated above for the type of equipment at your site. Each facility should develop an inspection program for each individual crane, hoist, fixture, and rigging that is based on the manufacturer's recommendations and all applicable standards. The nature of the critical components of the equipment and the degree of service that the piece of equipment is exposed to shall be taken into consideration in determining inspection frequency. Inspection procedures should state the acceptance criteria for inspections and tests and shall be specific for the

applicable make and model of crane. Inspections must be conducted by “designated personnel.” These are people who are selected or assigned by the employer as being qualified to perform these specific duties.

The inspections in this section describe mandatory inspection requirements. Inspection procedures for cranes in regular service are based upon the intervals at which inspections should be performed. The intervals, in turn, are dependent upon the nature of the critical components of the crane and the degree of their exposure to wear, deterioration, or malfunction. The general classifications of inspections are designated as “initial,” “startup and daily,” “frequent,” and “periodic.”

*1) Initial Inspections*

Prior to use, all new, altered, modified, or repaired cranes shall be inspected<sup>1</sup> by a designated person in accordance with a written procedure. Inspections of repaired, altered, and modified cranes may be limited to the provisions affected by the alteration, repair, or modification as determined by a qualified person. Dated and signed inspection reports shall be kept on file and shall be readily available. The inspection shall include the following functions: (1) hoisting and lowering, (2) trolley travel, (3) bridge travel, and (4) limit switches and locking and safety devices.

*2) Startup and Daily Inspection*

- a) On each shift, before operating the crane, the operator shall perform the following operations:
- b) Test All Controls. Any controls that do not operate properly should be adjusted or repaired prior to the start of any operation.<sup>2</sup>
- c) Verify Operation of the Primary Upper-Limit Switch. The trip-setting of the primary upper limit switches shall be checked under no load conditions by inching the block into the limit (running at slow speed).<sup>3</sup>
- d) Visually Inspect Ropes and Load Chains. These visual observations should be concerned with discovering gross damage that may be a hazard.<sup>4</sup>
- e) Inspect hooks and latches for deformation, chemical damage, cracks, and wear.<sup>5</sup>
- f) Ensure inspections (wire rope, chains, and crane) are current via inspection sticker or other documentation.

Each day that the crane is in use, the operator shall also inspect the following:

- a) Check that motions are smooth and regular with no hesitations, vibration, binding, weaving, unusual noise, or other irregularity.
- b) Check for deterioration or leakage in lines, tanks, valves, drain pumps, and other parts of air or hydraulic systems.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (1) (i), OSHA 1910.179 (k) (1) (i).

<sup>2</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (2) (i).

<sup>3</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (n) (4) (i).

<sup>4</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (n) (3) (ii)(a).

<sup>5</sup> Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, attachment 19-1.

<sup>6</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (2) (ii).

Reclamation requires daily inspections prior to operation or inspections prior to each shift.<sup>7</sup>

3) *Frequent Inspections*

A visual inspection by the user or other designated person with records not required to be maintained.

a) Normal service – monthly

Operating at less than 85 percent of rated load and not more than 10 lift cycles per hour except for isolated instances.

b) Heavy service – weekly to monthly

Operating at 85 to 100 percent of rated load or in excess of 10 lift cycles per hour as a regular specified procedure.

c) Severe service – daily

Operating at normal or heavy service under abnormal operating conditions (i.e., extreme temperatures, corrosive atmospheres).

Cranes that have been idle for 1 month or more but less than 6 months shall have a frequent inspection before being placed back in service.

The operator shall perform the following operations:

a) The inspections shall include all requirements of the “Startup and Daily Inspection.”

b) All functional operating mechanisms for excessive wear or damage to components.<sup>8</sup>

The operator or designated person should check that crane and hoist motions are smooth and regular for all speed steps, with no hesitations, vibration, binding, weaving, unusual noise, or other irregularity.

c) Check brake actions and ensure that the brakes are functioning normally and that there is no slippage, excessive play, or binding.<sup>9</sup> Exercise brakes to assure that they are dry.

d) Visually inspect hoist rope or chain reeving for compliance with hoist manufacturer’s recommendations.<sup>10</sup> Run out as much of the rope or chain as is necessary to visually examine those portions that flex over sheaves, sprockets, and other areas subject to wear or abrasion. Inspect hoist ropes for proper spooling onto the drums and sheaves. Visually ensure that hoisting ropes and/or chains are in good condition. The hoist chain shall feed smoothly into and away from sprockets. Inspect the chain for excessive wear, twist, distorted links interfering with proper function, or stretch.

e) If the crane is equipped with a lower-limit switch, check the lower-limit switch by slowly moving the block into the switch (no load on hook). The drum should be observed during this operation to ensure that at least two full wraps of wire rope remain on the drum at the lower limit.

f) For a cab-operated crane, check for a charged 10BC (or larger) fire extinguisher and ensure that the extinguisher inspection tag is current.

g) Complete any other inspections that are specific for the crane.

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<sup>7</sup> Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, section 19.2.1, table 19.2.

<sup>8</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (2) (i).

<sup>9</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (n) (3) (vii).

<sup>10</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (2) (vii).

Operators or other designated personnel shall carefully examine each deficiency and determine whether they constitute a safety hazard.<sup>11</sup>

4) *Periodic Inspections*

A thorough inspection by a designated person requiring a record of the inspection as of apparent condition.

- a) Normal service – annually
- b) Heavy service – annually
- c) Severe service – quarterly

A crane that is used infrequently and has been idle for a period of 6 months or more shall receive a periodic inspection before being placed in service. Reclamation requires periodic inspections to be performed at least annually.

A periodic inspection should contain information as described in the checklist that follows:

- a) Include pre-inspection safety requirements (e.g., lock and tag requirements) and ensure that the crane is in the proper location for inspection.<sup>12</sup>
- b) Include inspections recommended by the manufacturer or a qualified engineer.
- c) Include items previously listed in “2. Startup and Daily Inspection” and “3. Frequent Inspection” and “5. Monthly Wire Rope Inspection,” “6. Monthly Chain Inspection,” and “7. Hook Inspection” (requirements for these are included at the end of this section).
- d) Require a check of all motion limit devices which interrupt power or cause a warning to be activated, including hoist limit switches and bridge and trolley travel limit switches, for proper performance. To prevent damage, each motion shall be inched or operated at low speed into the limit device with no load on the crane. The actuating mechanism of the limit switch shall be located so that it will trip the switch, under all conditions, in sufficient time to prevent contact of the hook or load block with any part of the trolley or crane.<sup>13</sup>  
Check load limiting devices for proper operation.
- e) Require a check of control systems, if applicable, to include electrical apparatus for signs of pitting or any deterioration of visible controller contacts, limit switches, and pushbutton stations.<sup>14</sup> Inspect for dirt, oil, and moisture accumulation.
- f) Require a check for leakage in lines, tanks, valves, pumps, and other parts of pneumatic or hydraulic systems. Check reservoirs, air tanks, and gear boxes for proper fluid/pneumatic levels.
- g) Require a visual inspection of hooks for cracks; deformation; increased throat opening; twists; damage to hook retaining nuts, collars, or pins; and welds or rivets

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<sup>11</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (2).

<sup>12</sup> ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.3.2; ANSI/ASME B30.17-2.3.2.

<sup>13</sup> ANSI/ASME B30.17-2.1.3(10).

<sup>14</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (3) (x).

used to secure the retaining members.<sup>15</sup> Refer to section 6.10, “Overhead and Gantry Cranes,” “Hooks” for additional requirements.

- h) Require inspection of structural components for deformed, cracked, or corroded members.<sup>16</sup>
- i) Require an inspection of structural components for loose bolts or rivets.<sup>17</sup>
- j) Require an inspection of foundations and anchorages.
- k) Require an inspection for cracked or worn sheaves, drums, and load or idler sprockets for excessive wear.<sup>18</sup>
- l) Require an inspection of running ropes and/or load chain, including end connections. Refer to the section on hoisting equipment, “Hoist Wire Rope or Load Chain” for additional requirements.
- m) Require an inspection of load chain and drive chain sprocket for excessive wear or chain stretch.<sup>19</sup> Refer to the section on Hoisting Equipment, “Hoist Wire Rope or Load Chain” for additional requirements.
- n) Require an inspection for worn, cracked, or distorted parts such as pins, bearings, wheels, shafts, gears, rollers, locking and clamping devices, bumpers, and stops.<sup>20</sup>
- o) Require a check of brake systems parts, lining, pawls, and ratchets for excessive wear or damage.<sup>21</sup>
- p) Require a check of rail alignment and rail condition.
- q) Require a check of load, wind, and other indicators over their full range for any significant inaccuracies.<sup>22</sup>
- r) Require a check of gasoline, diesel, electric, or other powerplants for improper performance or noncompliance with applicable safety requirements.<sup>23</sup>
- s) Check function, warning, and safety labels for legibility.<sup>24</sup>
- t) Provide a document on which to record measurements, tests, or examinations.
- u) State the acceptance criteria for measurements, tests, and examinations.
- v) Provide specific “how to” instructions for any inspection activity that is not “common sense” to qualified inspection personnel.
- w) Complete nondestructive examination of hooks and of welds, bearings, or other suspect load bearing parts when required by the inspector.

5) *Monthly Wire Rope Inspection*

For in-service cranes (overhead and gantry), a monthly documented wire rope inspection is required as well as the requirements for startup and daily, frequent, and periodic inspections.<sup>25</sup> All rope that has been idle for a period of a month or more due to

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<sup>15</sup> ANSI/ASME B30.10-2.2.1.3.

<sup>16</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (3) (i).

<sup>17</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (3) (ii).

<sup>18</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (3) (iii).

<sup>19</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (3) (viii).

<sup>20</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (3) (iv).

<sup>21</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (3) (v).

<sup>22</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (3) (vi).

<sup>23</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (3) (vii).

<sup>24</sup> ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.3 (12); ANSI/ASME B30.17-2.1.3 (11).

<sup>25</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (m) (1).

shutdown or storage of the crane on which it is installed shall be given a “monthly” inspection before it is used.<sup>26</sup> Rope that has been out of service for more than 6 months shall have a periodic wire rope inspection before returning to service.

Refer to the section on hoisting equipment, “Hoist Wire Rope or Load Chain,” for additional requirements.

6) *Monthly Chain Inspection*

For in-service cranes (overhead and gantry), a monthly documented load chain inspection is required as well as the requirements for startup and daily, frequent, and periodic inspections.<sup>27</sup>

7) *Monthly Hook Inspection*

A monthly documented hook inspection is required.<sup>28</sup> Refer to section 6.10, “Overhead and Gantry Cranes,” “Hooks,” for additional requirements. Hooks with cracks or having more than 15 percent in excess of normal throat opening or more than 10 degrees twist from the plane of the unbent hook shall be removed from service and discarded.

8) *Inspection of Cranes Not in Regular Use*

Cranes that are out of service shall be inspected before being returned to service. The following identifies inspection requirements for returning cranes to service.

- a) A crane that has been idle more than 1 month, but less than 6 months, shall be given a frequent inspection and a documented monthly hook, rope, or load chain inspection.<sup>29</sup>
- b) A crane that has been idle more than 6 months shall have a periodic inspection, including a documented hook, rope, or load-chain inspection.<sup>30</sup>
- c) Standby cranes shall have a frequent inspection and a documented (equivalent to monthly) hook, rope, or chain inspection every 6 months.<sup>31</sup>

Cranes that are out of service AND are exempt from inspections shall be tagged out of service in accordance with the facility-specific lock and tag procedure. Standby cranes are not out of service.

9) *Third Party Inspections*

A third party crane inspection program is not required but is optional and at the discretion of the local organization management.

10) *Inspection Records*

Inspection reports should be dated, comparable, and kept on file. Inspection records shall be kept throughout the life of the crane. An electronic recordkeeping system may be

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<sup>26</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (m) (2).

<sup>27</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (2) (vi).

<sup>28</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (2) (iii).

<sup>29</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (4) (i).

<sup>30</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (4) (ii).

<sup>31</sup> OSHA 1910.179 (j) (4) (iii).

used. If a computerized maintenance management system (CMMS) such as MAXIMO is used, and maintenance records are not retained in the crane file, the crane file should state where the electronic maintenance records are kept. PO&M Form 194 is an example of an Overhead Crane Inspection Report. This form can be found electronically on Reclamations Intranet at <http://intra.usbr.gov/forms/pomforms.html>. It or similar forms should be used when conducting inspections that require documentation.

- a) **Initial Inspections.** An inspection report shall be completed to record data obtained during the inspection. The report shall be signed and dated and kept on file and readily available.
- b) **Pre-use, Daily and Frequent Inspections.** A written inspection report and record retention is not required. A frequent inspection verification checklist is recommended.
- c) **Periodic Inspections.** An inspection report shall be completed to record data obtained during the inspection. The report shall be signed and dated by a qualified inspector and kept on file and readily available.

Table 1 better defines these inspection requirements and intervals.

**Table 1. Crane and hoist equipment inspection criteria**

When to Inspect	Type of Inspection	Notes
Before initial use – new cranes	Initial inspection	Performed by manufacturer.
Before initial use – altered cranes	Initial inspection	<p>“Altered” is defined as any change to the original manufacturer’s design configuration—that is, replacement of weight handling equipment, parts, or components with other parts or components.</p> <p>A qualified person must conduct this inspection.</p>
Before initial use on a Reclamation project	Periodic inspection	<p>“Initial use” refers to the first time Reclamation takes possession of and assembles a crane or whenever a non-Reclamation-owned crane is brought onto a jobsite and set up for use.</p>

Source: Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, Revised 2001; table 19-2.

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Table 2 defines relevant OSHA and ANSI/ASME standard references that describe overhead crane and rigging inspection criteria.

**Table 2. Overhead crane inspection standards**

Equipment	Interval			
	Daily/Shift	Monthly	Frequent <sup>1</sup>	Periodic <sup>2, 3</sup>
<b>Overhead and Gantry Cranes</b>				
1. Crane Rails and Supports				ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.3(b)(1)
2. Hoist, Trolley, and Bridge Framework				ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.3(b)(1)
3. Footwalks and Ladders				ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.3(b)(2)
4. Stops, Bumpers, Rail Sweeps and Guards				ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.3(b)(4)
5. Braking System			ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.2(c)(3)	ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.3(b)(5)
<b>Electrical Equipment</b>				
6. Controllers	OSHA 1910.179 (j)(2)(i); RSHS 19-1(1)		ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.2(c)(1)	ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.3(b)(7)
7. Resistors				ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.3(b)(9)
8. Hoist-Limit Device	OSHA 1910.179 (n)(4)(i); ANSI/ASME B30.2-3.2.4(a); RSHS 19-Att.1(3)		ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.4.1(b); B30.2-2.1.2(c)(2)	ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.3(b)(10)
8. Bridge and Trolley Conductors and Collectors				ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.3(b)(9)

Equipment	Interval			
	Daily/Shift	Monthly	Frequent <sup>1</sup>	Periodic <sup>2, 3</sup>

**Hoisting Equipment**

10. Drum and Sheaves				ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.3(b)(3)
11. Wire Ropes	OSHA 1910.179 (j)(2)(vii); RSHS 19-1(17)	OSHA 1910.179 (m)(l) <sup>2</sup>	ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.4.1(a); B30.2-2.1.2(c)(6)	ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.4.1(b)(11)
12. Load Chain	OSHA 1910.179 (j)(2)(iv)	OSHA 1910.179 (j)(2)(iv) <sup>2</sup>		
12. Hooks	OSHA 1910.179 (j)(2)(iii); ANSI/ASME B30.17-2.1.2(c)(4); RSHS 19-1(6)	OSHA 1910.179 (j)(2)(iii) <sup>2</sup> - hooks with cracks or deformation only	ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.2(c)(4)	
13. Inspection Report				ANSI/ASME B30.2-2.1.5

**Ropes, Slings, Chains, and Rigging Hardware**

14. Slings	ANSI/ASME B30.9-2.8.1; OSHA 1910.184(d)			ANSI/ASME B30.9-2.8.2; OSHA 1910.184(e) (3) i (alloy steel chain)
15. Rigging Hardware	ANSI/ASME B30.26-1.8.2; 2.8.2; 3.8.2; 4.8.2; 5.8.2			ANSI/ASME B30.26-1.8.3; 2.8.3; 3.8.3; 4.8.3; 5.8.3
16. Below the Hook Lifting Devices			ANSI/ASME B30.20-4.3.1.2(d)	ANSI/ASME B30.20-4.3.1.3(a)

<sup>1</sup> Frequent inspections shall also include observations performed during a startup or change in shift pre-operation inspection.

<sup>2</sup> Written certification required to be kept on file.

<sup>3</sup> Periodic inspects also shall incorporate and include the items of a frequent inspection.

## 6.6 Maintenance

The users of all cranes are required to develop and follow a preventive maintenance program. Cranes are to be maintained in a safe and workable condition. As a minimum, manufacturer's recommendations shall be followed, and they should be the first source of information in developing a comprehensive maintenance plan for that particular piece of equipment. Replacement parts shall be at least equal to the original manufacturer's specifications.

Preventive maintenance shall be performed in accordance with written procedures. Procedures should state specific precautions, such as lockout/tagout requirements. A copy of the PM procedures shall be retained in the crane history file. An electronic recordkeeping system may be used. If a CMMS, such as MAXIMO, is used, and maintenance records are not retained in the crane file, the crane file should state where the electronic maintenance records are kept.

The crane maintenance file is a compilation of various documents and records relating to operation, maintenance, inspection, testing evaluation, and repair of the equipment. The methods selected for establishing adequate information retention and retrieval shall be determined by the equipment custodian.

The crane maintenance file shall contain, as a minimum, the required current dated periodic inspection records and other documentation to provide the user with evidence of a safe and reliable maintenance program. Inspection records should be retained in a format and location that provides for ease in accessibility. Maintenance file information should provide a source for comparing present conditions with past conditions to determine whether existing conditions show a trending pattern of wear, deterioration, or other comparable factors that may compromise safe, continued use of the equipment. Length of record retention shall be determined by the equipment custodian's established maintenance program.

Before maintenance is accomplished, where adjustments and repairs are required, the following precautions shall be taken.

- 1) The crane shall be run to a location where it will cause the least interference and is most accessible.
- 2) All controllers shall be checked to assure that they are in the off position.
- 3) If the equipment is electrically powered, the main or emergency disconnect or switch shall be opened and locked in the open position. The facility specific lockout/tagout procedures shall be strictly followed. Effective isolation of the energy source shall be conducted. If the crane is hydraulic or air powered, hydraulic and air pressure shall be relieved.
- 4) Effective warning signs, guards, and barriers shall be installed where overhead maintenance work creates a hazard or where interference with another crane or another crane's electrical conductors could occur.
- 5) Where other cranes are operating on the same runway, rail stops or other means shall be provided to prevent interference with the idle crane or work area.
- 6) Only trained personnel shall work on energized equipment when adjustments and test are required.

- 7) After maintenance work is completed and before returning to service:
  - a) Guards shall be reinstalled.
  - b) Safety devices shall be reactivated.
  - c) Replaced parts, tools, rags, and debris shall be removed.
  - d) Maintenance equipment shall be removed.
  - e) All locks and tags shall be cleared and removed.

All hazardous conditions and discrepancies disclosed by inspection or operation shall be corrected before resuming normal operation. Adjustments or replacements of parts shall be made to assure the correct function of all operating mechanisms, including components such as limit switches, control systems, brakes, and motors. The hook, rope, load chain, etc. shall be inspected and repaired or replaced as required.

After maintenance or repair, a pre-operational check shall be performed to verify the proper function of activities such as crane motion controls and interlocks. Special attention shall be given to those areas likely to have been affected by the maintenance or repair.

A closely controlled lubrication plan is required to prevent under- or over-lubrication. Lubrication frequency and lubrication types used in motors, bearings, gear boxes, wire rope, and other lubrication points shall be specified by the responsible engineer inspector or maintenance organization and adhere to the manufacturer's recommendations. If inspection finds over- or under-lubrication, the lubrication method or frequency shall be adjusted.

Sheave bearings, including equalizing sheaves, shall be individually lubricated on a regular schedule. Load blocks that are immersed in water shall have special provisions to prevent lubricant loss. Lubrication frequency and type should be carefully evaluated.

Hoist ropes, except for stainless steel rope (consult manufacturer), shall be lubricated. Again, when ropes are immersed in water, the type of lubricant and frequency shall be adjusted to reduce the loss of lubricant to water.

For motors that require lubrication, a closely controlled lubrication plan is required.

The responsible engineering or maintenance organization should use predictive maintenance practices or tests as necessary to diagnose problems and predict maintenance requirements. Examples of this are the use of scheduled chemical/microscopic lubricant tests and vibration analysis of rotating equipment.

## 6.7 Testing

### 6.7.1 Operational Tests

Before initial use, new, reinstalled, altered, repaired, or modified cranes shall be tested by a designated person to ensure that the crane is in good operational condition. Tests shall include:

- 1) Lifting and lowering
- 2) Trolley travel
- 3) Bridge travel
- 4) Limit switches
  - a) Check the hoist limit device(s), primary and secondary if so equipped, by slowly moving the block into the switch (no load on hook). Then check the hoist limit device(s) at increasing speeds up to maximum speed.
  - b) The actuating mechanism of the upper-limit device shall be located or adjusted so that it will trip the device in sufficient time to prevent contact of the load block or load with any part of the trolley or bridge.
  - c) Travel-limiting devices.
  - d) Locking and indicating devices, if provided.

Operational testing of altered, repaired, and modified cranes may be limited to the functions affected by the alteration, repair, or modification as determined by a qualified person.

Reclamation requires an annual operational test unless the equipment has been out of service; in which case, it may be deferred until the next crane operation.<sup>32</sup>

### 6.7.2 Periodic Load Tests

Scheduled (Periodic) load tests are not routinely required. Management, at their discretion, may implement a periodic load testing program. The frequency and capacity of such periodic tests shall be set by management. For example, Reclamation requires a load test before any lift where the load is expected to be at least 75 percent of the rated capacity. The test remains valid for 5 years and must be at least 100 percent of rated capacity but not greater than 110 percent.<sup>33</sup>

Rated load tests shall be conducted under the following criteria:

Before initial use, new, reinstalled, altered, repaired, or modified cranes shall be load-tested as determined by a qualified person. Overhead and gantry cranes may be load-tested between 100 percent and 110 percent unless recommended differently by the manufacturer or a qualified person. Rated load tests of altered, repaired, and modified cranes may be limited to the functions affected by the alteration, repair, or modification as determined by a qualified person.

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<sup>32</sup> Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, section 19.2.2 (a).

<sup>33</sup> Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, section 19.2.3.

The replacement of load rope and chain is specifically excluded from this load test; however, an operational test is required. Load testing may be required at management's discretion. The crane manufacturer may want to be consulted.

When rope clips or wedge socket end connections are used on a load line, the hoist should be cycled several times with a load no less than the maximum operation load (normally 100 percent of the rated capacity). Next, if rope clips are used, check and retighten nuts to the recommended torque. If a wedge socket is used, verify that the rope is properly seated.

Consult Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, attachment 19-2, for further requirements and test procedures.

Load tests shall be performed only after inspection and maintenance of the crane are confirmed as current and any outstanding problems have been addressed. This is usually a good time also to check load limiting devices for accuracy of settings.

The load-test weight should be within tolerance of +0 percent, -5 percent.

After the load test is conducted, the person conducting the test shall prepare a written report on the test. This report shall be signed, dated, and kept on file.

A hook nondestructive examination (NDE) is not routinely required before a load test. If the hooks are to have a NDE, the NDE should be done after the load test.

## 6.8 Safe Operating Practices

Cranes shall only be operated by qualified designated persons, trainees under direct supervision of a designated person, and/or maintenance and test personnel when necessary. Operators of cab-operated cranes and pulpit-operated cranes shall be required to pass a written or oral examination and shall meet specified physical requirements as outlined in *Reclamation Safety and Health Standards*. When physically or otherwise unfit, an operator shall not operate the equipment.

All controls shall be tested by the operator before beginning a new shift. The operator shall test the brakes each time a load approaching the rated load is handled. The brakes shall be tested by raising the load a few inches and applying the brakes. If any controls do not operate properly, they should be adjusted or repaired prior to the start of operations.

The operator shall be familiar with the crane and its proper care. He shall promptly report any repairs or adjustments that are discovered to the person responsible for the O&M repairs of the crane.

Contact with runway stops or other cranes should be made with extreme caution and care.

Before any maintenance work is performed on the crane, the operator shall lock and tag the main disconnect in the de-energized position. Facility-specific lockout/tagout procedures shall be followed and enforced.

Before leaving a cab-operated crane, the operator shall land any attached load, place controllers in the off position, and open the main disconnect of the crane.

The operator is responsible for those operations under the operator's direct control.

The operator shall respond to signals from the person who is directing the lift or from an appointed signal person. When a signal person is not required as part of the operation, the operator then is responsible for the lifts. However, the operator shall obey a stop signal at all times, no matter who gives it.

While actually operating the crane, the operator shall not engage in any practice that will divert his attention. The operator should not leave his position at the controls while a load is suspended unless specific precautions have been implemented.

The operator shall not close the main disconnect until certain that no worker is on or adjacent to the crane. The operator shall be sure that all controllers are in the off position before closing the main disconnect.

If power goes off during operation, the operator shall immediately place all controllers in the off position.

A warning signal shall be sounded prior to starting bridge travel and when the load or hook approaches near or over people.

Standard hand signals shall be used. Radio communication should be used where hand signals are insufficient. The crane operator and signal person shall always maintain communication.

Outdoor cranes shall be secured after use.

If a wind-indication device is present and alarms, all crane operation shall be immediately discontinued, and the crane shall be prepared and stored for excessive wind conditions.

The crane shall not be loaded beyond its rated load, except for test purposes.

The hoist rope or chain shall be free from all kinks or twists and shall not be wrapped around the load. Multiple part lines shall not be twisted around each other.

The load shall be attached to the block hook by means of slings or other approved devices. Care shall be taken to make certain that the sling clears all obstacles. The load should not contact any obstructions.

The load shall be well secured and properly balanced in the sling or lifting device before it is lifted. The hook should be centered over the center of gravity of the load in such a manner as to prevent swinging.

The hoist rope should be checked prior to operating to verify that it is seated in the drum grooves and sheaves, especially if there has been a slack condition.

Avoid sudden acceleration or deceleration of the load.

Cranes shall not be used for side pulls, except when specifically authorized by a qualified person.

When practical, tag lines shall be used to control loads.

Personnel shall not ride the load or hook.

The operator shall avoid carrying loads over people.

The load shall not be lowered below the point where less than two full wraps of rope remain on the drum.

When two or more cranes are used to lift a load, one qualified responsible person shall be in charge of the operation.

Operators shall be familiar with the operation and care of the fire extinguisher.

## 6.9 Critical Lifts

### 6.9.1 Determination of Critical Lift

A critical lift is a nonroutine lift requiring detailed planning and additional or unusual safety precautions. Reclamation designates critical lifts as those that are determined to be:<sup>34</sup>

- 1) Lifts made when the load weight is 75 percent or more than the rated capacity of the crane or hoisting device.
- 2) Lifts made with more than one crane.
- 3) Hoisting personnel with a crane.
- 4) Any lift that the crane or hoist operator believes to be critical.

Additional examples of factors that would designate a critical lift would be:

- 1) If the item being lifted were to be damaged or upset, a significant release of a hazardous material or other undesirable conditions to the environment would occur.

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<sup>34</sup> Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, section 19.6.

- 2) The item being lifted is unique and, if damaged, would be irreplaceable or not repairable and is vital to a system or project operation.
- 3) The cost to replace or repair the item being lifted, or the delay in operations of having the item damaged, would have a significant negative impact on the facility or organization, to the extent that it would affect program commitments.
- 4) If the load requires exceptional care in handling because of size, weight, close tolerance installation, high susceptibility to damage, or other unusual factors.

The item, although noncritical, is to be lifted above or in close proximity to a critical item or component. An item close to a safety-related component or near concentrations of hazardous energy or chemicals meets this criterion. A mobile crane working near power lines or transmission towers is an example.

### **6.9.2      Responsibility**

The person who has responsibility for the item being lifted has the authority to require that it be handled as a critical lift. In addition, the manager at the facility where the lift will be performed or the safety officer overseeing the facility also has the authority to require that it be handled as a critical lift.

### **6.9.3      Designated Person**

The manager who designates a lift as a critical lift shall ensure that a designated person, other than the crane operator, be assigned to supervise the planning and execution of the critical lift. This designated person also shall ensure that equipment (cranes, hoist, slings, rigging hardware, and below-the-hook lifting devices) are current on all inspections and load tests (if required). He shall ensure that all members of the work teams completely understand the work instruction and revisions of the critical lift.

### **6.9.4      Critical Lift Plans**

A step-by-step plan or work instructions shall be prepared and approved by a technically qualified person. Critical lift plans shall contain the following:

- 1) Identity of the item(s) to be lifted
- 2) Exact weight and size of the item and total weight of the load (including all crane and rigging components)
- 3) Exact information about the sequence of events and procedures, including equipment positioning, height of the lift, and load radius, where applicable
- 4) Rigging plans and sketch(s) which include the following:
  - a) Lift point identification
  - b) Methods of attachment
  - c) Load angle factors
  - d) Sling angles

- e) Accessories used
- f) Rated capacity of the equipment in the configuration(s) in which it is used
- g) Other factors effecting the equipment capacity
- 5) Conditions and procedures under which the lifting operation is to be stopped
- 6) Coordination and communications procedures
- 7) Names of lift supervisor, crane operator, riggers, and other personnel with key roles in the operation
- 8) For tandem lifts, general information on the hoisting equipment to ensure the equipment is compatible
- 9) Ground conditions and other information needed to ensure that a level, stable foundation is available to support the lift.

Other general information that may be required, depending on the situation and equipment used:

- 1) Special precautions or equipment required, such as sling corner pads, cribbing, etc.
- 2) A list that specifies each piece of equipment, type, and rated capacity
- 3) Location of the loads center of gravity
- 4) Designated check or hold points so job progress can be checked against the plan and the load inspected
- 5) A load-path sketch that shows the load path and height at key points
- 6) A sketch indicating lifting at travel speed limitations
- 7) A signoff sheet to verify that equipment and hardware inspections and tests are current

Practice lifts may be beneficial in certain circumstances. (If used, the practice lift should be documented in the plan).

### **6.9.5 Critical Lift Plan Approval**

All personnel involved in the lift should review, sign, and date the critical lift plan. Others who should approve and sign the plan, depending on the situation are:

- 1) The manager responsible for the item to be lifted
- 2) The technical approver
- 3) Qualified engineer
- 4) Safety officer in charge

### **6.9.6 Prelift Meeting**

Before performing a critical lift, immediately following a field revision, or prior to initiating a change in the critical lift, participating personnel shall meet to accomplish the following:

- 1) Review the critical lift plan or revision
- 2) Discuss any hazards, controls, hold points, unique conditions, and emergency contingencies.
- 3) Coordinate with each other and other work groups
- 4) Resolve any questions before beginning work

- 5) Sign the critical lift plan

### **6.9.7 Documentation**

Documentation of a critical lift shall include the following:

- 1) The critical lift plan, recording job completion, hold point signoffs, and approval signatures, as applicable
- 2) Documentation of the prelift meeting, meeting date, and list of attendees
- 3) Any additional documentation deemed appropriate

The designated person or other assigned person shall retain meeting documentation until the lift is satisfactorily completed. When the job is finished, he shall forward the critical lift documentation to the manager for whom the lift was done.

## **6.10 Overhead and Gantry Cranes**

### **6.10.1 General**

This section applies to overhead and gantry cranes; semi-gantry, cantilever, and wall cranes; storage bridge cranes; and all other cranes that have trolleys and similar travel characteristics.

### **6.10.2 Modifications**

Modifications, additions, or major repairs shall not be made except by the manufacturer, with his written approval, or by the approval of a professional engineer. Any crane that has been modified or rerated so that its load-supporting components, capacity, or operation has been modified shall be retested in accordance with the testing portion of this section. The new rated load shall be shown on the crane.

### **6.10.3 Rated Load Marking**

The rated load of the crane should be marked on each side of crane. If the crane has more than one hoist, each hoist shall have its rated load marked on its load block. Markings shall be large enough to be legible from the ground or floor.

#### **6.10.4 Hand Signal Posting**

Figures demonstrating standard hand signals for controlling crane operations shall be posted conspicuously at the operator's position and, as practical, at signal control points and other locations where necessary.<sup>35</sup>

#### **6.10.5 Outdoor Cranes**

New outdoor storage cranes require automatic rail clamps and a wind indicating device.

#### **6.10.6 General Construction**

Crane installations and equipment must be designed by the manufacturer or a professional engineer. Crane runways and supporting structures shall be designed to withstand the loads and forces imposed by the crane. A minimum clearance of 3 inches overhead and 2 inches laterally shall be provided and maintained between the crane and any obstructions. The cab shall also have a 3-inch minimum clearance from any obstruction within its possible movement.

#### **6.10.7 Maintenance and Inspection Requirements**

Unless there is justification to do otherwise, the manufacturer's recommendations shall be followed. The following are recommended maintenance and inspection practices.

##### *1. Crane Rails and Supports*

*Frequent Inspections.* Check for abnormal vibration or skewing in the crane support structure or bracing and the crane rails when operating.

*Periodic Inspections.* Check crane rails for alignment and level. Look for dips, cleanliness, grease, or oil. Bridge rails should be straight. Inspect welds if welded clips or welded rail is used. Check that expansion gaps in splice joints are evenly spaced and not so large as to cause vertical movement when the wheel passes over it. Refer to manufacturer's specifications for spacing tolerances. Look for wear patterns on the rail, both on the top and side of the rail head. Clean rails if significantly dirty. Packed debris on the rail head can lead to jerky crane motion. Check concrete rail supports for cracking or spalling and check steel supports for corrosion and loose bolts or rivets. Repair concrete as required. Tighten loose bolts and rivets. Check that rail stops are securely fastened.

##### *2. Hoist, Trolley, and Bridge Framework*

*Frequent Inspections.* Check for abnormal vibration or skewing in the crane structure or bracing when operating.

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<sup>35</sup> Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, section 19.5.9 b.

*Periodic Inspections.* Check all framework for deformation, cracks, and corrosion, paying close attention to load bearing members and welded joints. Look for structural problems, especially in the corners and on long spans. Check for evidence of skewing. Skewing will occur between end-truck cross members and bridge girders and sometimes can be seen on the inside corners. On fixed cranes, check column anchorage and supports for deformed bolts or concrete cracks in the foundation. Check bolts and rivets for tightness. Clean and repaint as required.

3. *Cabs*

Access shall be by fixed ladder, stair, or platform requiring no step over any gap exceeding 12 inches. Outdoor cabs should be enclosed. All cab glazing shall be safety glass. All cabs shall have an emergency means of egress. A portable fire extinguisher is required to be installed in every cab. A 2A: 40-B: C rating is required.<sup>36</sup> Carbon tetrachloride extinguishers are not allowed.

*Frequent Inspections.* Tools, oil cans, extra fuses, and other articles shall be stored in the tool box and should not lie loose in or about the cab. Check for adequate cab lighting. Replace failed bulbs. Dispose of oily rags and trash.

*Periodic Inspections.* Check for broken windows or doors. Check guardrails and doors. Check bolts and rivets for tightness. Check welded joints for cracks. Look for corrosion of steel member. Cab housekeeping should be maintained. Tools, oil cans, rags, and other parts shall be stored in fire-resistant toolboxes. Vacuum the cab and clean controls. Paint as required. Verify that the fire extinguisher is full.

4. *Footwalks and Ladders*

Footwalks shall be rigid with an antislip type walking surface. Wooden footwalks are allowed. Ladders, toeboards, and handrails shall be permanent, be securely fastened in place, and be OSHA compliant. Ladders shall extend from the ground or floor to the cab platform or footwalk. If headroom is sufficient, a footwalk shall be included on the drive side along the entire length of the bridge of all cranes having a trolley running on top of the girders.

*Frequent Inspections.* Check that footwalks are clean of trash, debris, and oil. Be cognizant of unsafe conditions such as loose railing, toeboards, or walking surfaces and repair if required.

*Periodic Inspections.* Check handrails and ladders. Verify compliance to codes. Check bolts and rivets for tightness. Check ladder rungs and stairs for significant wear of antislip surfaces. Check welded joints for cracks. Check that toeboards are secure. If wooden footwalks are used, verify that the wood is in good condition and the surface is slip-resistant. Look for corrosion of steel member or cracked welds. Clean and paint as required.

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<sup>36</sup> Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, section 19.9.8.

##### 5. *Stops, Bumpers, Rail Sweeps, and Guards*

Stops shall be provided at the limits of trolley travel and shall be fastened to resist forces applied when contacted by the bumpers.

All power-operated bridges and trolleys are required to have bumpers. They should be energy-absorbing (or energy-dissipating) and designed specifically for stopping the bridge or trolley, even with loss of power. Bumpers shall be equipped so as to minimize parts falling from the crane in case of breakage or age.

When more than one bridge or trolley is mounted on the same runway, bumpers shall be provided between adjacent bridge or trolley ends.

Rail sweeps are required in front of the leading wheels on both ends of the trolley end truck. Their purpose is to clear the rail of objects on the bridge which, if caught between the wheel and rail, could damage or derail the wheel. Clearance between the top surface of the rail and the bottom of the sweep should not exceed 3/16 inch. Rail sweeps should extend below the top of the rail. Side clearance should be equal to the crane float plus 3/16 inch.

Guards are required over all exposed moving parts, such as gears, set screws, keys, drive chains, and sprocket that present a hazard under normal operating conditions. Guards are required to be substantially constructed so that they cannot deform and make contact with moving parts or live electrical parts. A guard should be provided between exposed bridge conductors and hoisting ropes if it is possible that they could come into contact. Guards are also required if hoisting ropes run near enough to other parts to make chafing or fouling possible.

*Frequent Inspections.* Visually inspect the area of oil-filled bumpers for indications of oil leakage. Visually inspect for missing guards.

*Periodic Inspections.* Inspect stops and bumpers for wear, cracks, corrosion, or distortion. Check for looseness and proper positioning. Check for leaking of hydraulic bumpers and fill to proper level. Check rubber or plastic bumpers for cracks or other damage. Check mounting connections for tightness and signs of shear. Replace or repair as required. Adjust rail sweeps if required. Verify that all guards are in place and securely fastened. Verify that bridge and trolley bumpers have a safety chain or cable in place that will keep the bumper from falling if mounting connections break.

##### 6. *Braking System*

**Hoist Brakes.**—Each hoist unit is required to have at least one self-setting (holding) brake that applies directly to the motor shaft or some part of the gear train. Hoist holding brakes shall apply automatically when power to the brake is removed. Also, hoist holding brakes shall be provided with brake adjusters to adjust for lining wear. The wear surface of all drum and disc brakes shall be smooth. Brakes should not overheat under general service conditions.

Each hoist unit greater than 1 ton (except specifically designed worm gear hoists) is required to have at least one control brake to prevent overspeed. Braking means can be electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, or worm-gear. Brakes should not overheat under general service conditions.

Hand-operated hoists shall be designed to automatically stop and hold a test load up to 125 percent of the rated load, when the actuating force is removed.

**Trolley and Bridge Brakes.**—Each power-driven bridge and trolley unit of the crane shall be equipped with either a braking means or have frictional characteristics that will provide stopping and holding. Brakes should not overheat under general service conditions.

Brakes may be mechanical, electrical, pneumatic, hydraulic, or gravitational. They shall have a means for adjustment to compensate for wear. The wear surface of all drum and disc brakes shall be smooth. Foot-operated brakes shall require not more than 70 pounds to apply and be equipped with means for positive release when force is taken off the pedal.

Brake pedals, latches, and levers should allow release with less force than was used to apply the brake.

When provided, a parking brake shall:

- Be applied either automatically or manually
- Impede horizontal motion as required by ANSI/ASME standards
- Not prohibit the use of a drift point in the control circuitry

When provided, a service brake shall:

- Be applied manually by the operator
- Stop trolley or bridge travel as required by ANSI/ASME standards

When provided, a drag brake shall provide a continuous retarding torque without external control.

When provided, an emergency brake shall:

- Be applied when initiated by the operator or automatically upon loss of power
- Stop trolley or bridge travel as required by ANSI/ASME standards
- Impede horizontal motion as required by ANSI/ASME standards

*Frequent Inspections.* Check operation of bridge and trolley brakes and look for leaks in hydraulic lines. Before proceeding with a lift, lift load a few inches and check that hoist brakes are holding. Be conscientious to unusual smoke or smell that might indicate overheating or burning of linings.

*Periodic Inspections.* Check brake lining for excessive wear and oil contamination. Inspect for signs of heating. Check linings of shoes and pads for asbestos. Replace any

asbestos linings with a non-asbestos type. Check brake drums for scoring. Check for smooth drums and uneven wear patterns. Measure and record clearance and shoe thickness. Check operating mechanisms for wear or damage, adequate lubrication, and proper adjustment. Repair or replace parts as required. Check operation of load control braking system. Verify that hoist brakes will hold load with loss of power. Clean dust and dirt from brakes. Always wear a dust mask for this work. Inspect brake drums and flanges for cracks and signs of heating. Look for broken or damaged springs. Lubricate pivot points lightly. Foot brake pedals shall be clean and properly maintained so that the operator's foot will not easily slip off the pedal.

7. *Trolley and Bridge Motors, Gear Boxes, and Shafts*

Motors should be routinely tested. Refer to FIST 4-1-B, Maintenance Scheduling for Electrical Equipment, section 24, for electrical test requirements.

*Frequent Inspections.* Listen for abnormal noise in gear boxes and motors which may be indicative of motor or gear box bearing problems.

*Periodic Inspections.* Open covers and check oil levels. If the facility has an oil sampling program, draw an oil sample for testing. Prior to adding lubricant, verify the proper lubricant required. Only lubricants that comply with the manufacturer's specification should be used. Inspect oil and gear boxes for metal and nonmetal particles. Check seals on gear boxes for leaks. Clean oil leakage and replace seals if required. Inspect gears for missing or worn teeth or abnormal wear patterns on teeth. Look for signs of heat (discoloration). Grease bearings on shafts where grease zerks are present. Do not overgrease. Inspect shafts and couplings. Make sure that bolts are tight and no slippage has occurred. Verify that all protective guards are in place and secure.

Check motor brushes for wear and slip rings for pitting. Examine brushes for length and fit. Replace one at a time if badly worn. Inspect commutators for wear, flat spots, high bars discoloration, or ridging. Never touch the commutator with your finger. Check connections to brushes. Look for signs of excessive heat. Re-torque to manufacturer's recommendations as required. Vacuum away carbon dust produced from brush wear. Clean motor air intake screens. Using air, blow dirt out of the interior windings of the motor if required. Grease bearings if not of the sealed type.

8. *Electrical Equipment*

Wiring and equipment shall comply with the requirements of the National Electric Code, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 70, Article 610, "Cranes and Hoists."

Crane control voltage shall be less than 600 volts (V) ac or dc. Pendent control voltage shall not exceed 150 V ac or 300 V for dc.

All electrical equipment shall be located or enclosed so that, under normal operating conditions, contact with energized parts cannot occur. Electrical equipment shall be protected from dirt, grease, oil, and moisture. Cabinet interiors should be cleaned during annual maintenance, if required.

**Controllers.**—Cranes that are not equipped with spring-return controllers or momentary contact pushbuttons shall be provided with a device which will disconnect all motors from the line on power failure and will not permit any motor to restart until the controller handle is brought to the “off” position or a reset is operated.

All controls and switches should be labeled as to their function. Each crane control shall be marked to indicate the direction of the resultant motion. Arrangements of cab, pendant, and radio controls should conform to the requirements of ANSI/ASME B30.2.

Pendant control stations shall be constructed to prevent electrical shock. Only commercially manufactured pendants shall be used. Where multiple conductor cable is used, the station’s electrical conductors will be provided with some type of strain support. Push buttons on pendant stations shall have a spring return to the off position when pressure is released. The spring return force shall be the minimum necessary for positive return.

For cab cranes, the lever-operated manual controller and switch shall be provided with a spring-return and off-point detent or latch. With floor-operated cranes, the controllers, if rope operated, shall also automatically return to the off position when released by the operator.

Radio- or remote-operated cranes shall function so that, on loss of control signal for any crane motion, the crane motion shall stop. Signals from any source other than the transmitter shall not result in operation of motion.

*Frequent Inspections.* Check control levers and pushbuttons for misadjustments, free movement, and for any obstruction that could interfere with proper operation. Check that the controller returns to the off position when the lever is released. Check for excessive wear and contamination by lubricants or other foreign matter. Controls shall be kept clean, and function labels shall be kept legible.

*Periodic Inspections.* Check controller contacts for signs of pitting or any other deterioration. Examine the controller for burned contacts or signs of overheating. Check for excessive wear or looseness of control levers. Vacuum and clean the controller if contaminated with dust and dirt. Lubricate moving parts as needed. Check strain relief on pendant. Check that required control markings are displayed and legible.

**Resistor Banks.**—Resistors shall have openings to provide adequate ventilation. They shall be made to prevent molten metal from falling on the operator or from the crane. If enclosed, they shall be installed so that the accumulation of combustible matter is minimized.

*Frequent Inspections.* Nothing required.

*Periodic Inspections.* Visually examine resistor tubes for cracks, loose bands and connections, and broken resistance wire. Clean resistor banks if dirty.

**Switches.**—The power to the runway conductors shall have a switch or circuit breaker accessible from the floor and lockable in the open position. On cranes with cabs, an enclosed switch or breaker with provisions for locking in the open position shall be provided in the leads from the runway conductor. A means of opening the switch or breaker shall be located within easy reach of the operator. When the operator opens this switch or circuit breaker, the holding brake(s) shall set.

On floor remote or pulpit-operated cranes, a lockable switch or enclosed type circuit breaker shall be provided in the leads from the runway conductors and shall be located on the bridge or footwalk near the runway collectors. It shall be able to be locked in the open position. A means to open the switch with a magnetic contactor controlled from the operators station shall be provided. This provides for emergency shutdown of all power to the crane.

**Over-travel Protection.**—Hoists shall have an upper limit switch to prevent travel of the load block beyond the limit of travel.<sup>37</sup> On wire rope hoists, if a geared or other limit switch or device that operates in relation to drum turns is used, a second limit switch that operates independent of drum rotations shall be provided. Cranes with powered hoists shall not be installed where, during normal operating conditions, the hook can be lowered to a point that leaves less than two wraps of rope on the drum.

Underhung, hand-chain operated hoists shall have a means to restrain the chain before the load chain can be completely run out of the hoist. The restraint shall be designed such that the unloaded hoist can withstand a lowering hand-chain force equivalent to twice the pull required to lift the rated load or, with the rated load on the hoist, a hand-chain force equivalent to the pull required to lift the rated load.

Plants where the load block may enter pits or hatchways below the floor should be provided with a lower limit switch.

**Warning Devices.**—Except for floor-operated cranes, all cranes with a powered traveling mechanism shall be equipped with a travel warning device. A gong, bell, horn, flashing light, or other effective warning device shall be used for this purpose. A warning device is recommended for floor-operated cranes with a powered traveling mechanism.

For outdoor overhead and gantry crane operations with a top-running trolley, a wind-indicating device shall be provided. The device shall give a visible and audible alarm to the crane operator at a predetermined wind velocity.

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<sup>37</sup> In lieu of a limit switch, a mechanism such as a slip clutch may be used for underhung hoists.

**Service Receptacles.**—All service receptacles provided on the cab or bridge shall be of the permanent, grounded three-prong type, not to exceed 300 volts.

*Frequent Inspections.* Check operation of hoist upper limit switches, without load, by carefully inching into the limit switch. Confirm operation of all warning devices.

*Periodic Inspections.* Check operation of hoist upper, lower, and travel limit switches; check electrical contacts for signs of pitting or any other deterioration. Check levers and cams for adequate lubrication and excessive wear. Verify main disconnect and cab disconnect or breaker meet all code requirements.

**Bridge and Trolley Conductors and Collectors.**—Open type conductors, mounted on the crane runway beams or overhead, shall be located or guarded so that personnel cannot, under normal operating conditions, inadvertently come in contact with the energized conductors. The guards shall be securely fastened so that any contact between the guards and the hoist ropes will prevent the hoist ropes from coming into contact with the conductors.

*Frequent Inspections.* Nothing required.

*Periodic Inspections.* Check the contact surfaces of open conductors and collectors for signs of arcing damage, pitting, and corrosion. Check condition of insulators. Clean as required. Check that festoon type conductor cable moves freely with bridge and trolley movement. Check the condition of insulation and for kinking in cable. Check that all guards are in place and secure.

#### 9. *Hoisting Equipment*

**Drums and Sheaves.**—Rope drums shall be grooved, unless provided differently by the manufacturer for a special application. The grooves shall be free of surface defects and form a close-fitting saddle for the rope size used.

Sheave grooves shall be smooth and free from surface defects that might damage the rope. Sheaves in the bottom block shall be equipped with guards that will prevent the ropes from fouling when the block is lying on the ground and the ropes are loose. All running sheaves shall be equipped with means for lubrication. Permanently lubricated, sealed, and/or shielded bearings meet this requirement

*Frequent Inspections.* Nothing required.

*Periodic Inspections.* Visually inspect drums and sheaves for cracks or other damage. Check pillow block bearings for tightness, wear, and proper lubrication. With a sheave gauge, check grooves of drums and sheaves for wear. Repair or replace as required. Inspect load block guards for contact with sheaves or wire rope. Inspect wire rope dead-ends.

**Hoist Motors, Gear Boxes and Shafts.**—Refer to item 7, “Trolley and Bridge Motors, Gear Boxes and Shafts.” The same requirements apply.

**Equalizers.**—If the load is supported by more than one part of rope, the tension shall be equalized. Equalizer sheaves shall be lubricated at the same time as other drums and sheaves.

*Frequent Inspections.* Nothing required.

*Periodic Inspections.* Manually turn equalizer sheave on inspection, so that ropes travel in a new location. Lubricate if required.

**Hoist Wire Rope or Load Chain.**—Hoisting ropes shall be as recommended for the crane service. For hoists and overhead cranes, the wire rope design factor is 5:1. Socketing shall be done in a manner recommended by the rope or fitting manufacturer or a qualified person.

Ropes shall be secured to the drum as follows:

- a) No less than two wraps of rope shall remain on the drum at each anchorage of the hoisting drum when the hook is in its extreme low position unless a lower-limit device is provided; in which case, no less than one wrap shall remain.
- b) The rope end shall be anchored by a clamp attached to the drum or by a socket arrangement specified by the crane or rope manufacturer. Rope clamps shall be tightened to the recommended manufacturer's torque.
- c) Eye splices shall be made in the recommended manner. Rope thimbles should be used in the eye.
- d) Wire rope clips shall be drop-forged steel of the single-saddle(U-bolt) or double-saddle type.
- e) Swaged or compressed fittings shall be applied as recommended by the rope, crane, or fitting manufacturer or qualified person.
- f) Rope having an independent wire-rope or wire-stranded core or other temperature resistant core shall be used whenever the rope is exposed to ambient temperatures greater than 180 degrees.
- g) Using rotation-resistant rope shall be approved by the manufacturer of the equipment on which it is used, if possible. The application of rotation-resistant rope requires special installation procedures, higher design factors, and special inspection and maintenance procedures.
- h) Replacement rope shall be the same size, grade, and construction as the original rope furnished by the crane manufacturer, unless otherwise recommended by a rope or crane manufacturer or qualified person due to actual working condition requirements.

**Startup and Daily Inspections.**—At the start of each shift or day and prior to the crane being used, the crane operator shall visually inspect the rope for visual damage, such as:

- a) Distortion of the rope, such as kinking, crushing, unstranding, bird-caging, main strand displacement, or core protrusion

- b) General corrosion
- c) Broken or cut strands
- d) Number, distribution, and type of visible broken wires

When damage is discovered, the rope shall either be removed or given a detailed inspection as required in the periodic inspection below.

Check wire rope to ensure there is no slack in drum or load block and that reeving is proper.

Check load chains for worn or damaged links. Check that the chain feeds into and away from sprockets smoothly. If the chain binds, jumps, or is noisy, it shall be checked to ensure that it is clean and properly lubricated. If the trouble persists, the chain and mating parts shall be inspected for wear, distortion, or other damage.

The chain shall be examined visually for gouges, nicks, weld spatter, corrosion, and distorted links. The chain shall be slackened, and the adjacent links shall be moved to one side to inspect for wear at the contact points.

*Monthly Inspections.* For inservice overhead and gantry cranes, OSHA 1920.179 requires a monthly, documented running rope inspection to be performed by a qualified wire rope inspector.<sup>38</sup> Similarly, overhead and gantry cranes with load chains also shall have a monthly inspection conducted.<sup>39</sup> Documentation shall include the date of inspection, the signature of the person who performed the inspection, and the identity of the ropes that were inspected. This documentation shall be kept readily available.

Visually inspect running ropes for any condition that could result in an appreciable loss of strength. Some conditions to look for are:

- a) Reduction of rope diameter below nominal diameter
- b) A number of broken outside wires and the degree of distribution or concentration of broken wires
- c) Worn outside wires
- d) Corroded or broken wires at end connections
- e) Corroded, cracked, bent, worn, or improperly applied end connections
- f) Severe kinking, crushing, cutting, or unstranding

For overhead and gantry cranes that are in service, load chains are required to be inspected monthly. Cranes not in regular use that have been idle for 1 month or more, but less than 6 months, shall have a chain inspection, equal to a monthly chain inspection before returning to service. Welded link and roller type chain inspection shall check for excessive wear, twist, or distorted links which interfere with the chains proper function or stretching beyond the manufacturer's recommendations. Also inspect the end connections.

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<sup>38</sup> Occupational Safety and Health Administration, "Overhead and Gantry Cranes," 1910.179 (m) 1.

<sup>39</sup> Occupational Safety and Health Administration, "Overhead and Gantry Cranes," 1910.179 (j) 2 (iv).

A monthly inspection is not required if a periodic inspection of running and standing rope or chain is accomplished the same month.

*Periodic Inspections.* A thorough inspection of running rope and standing rope shall be made at least annually or more frequently as determined by a qualified person.

Inspection frequency shall be based on such factors as expected rope life, determined by experience on the particular equipment or similar equipment, severity of environment, percentage of capacity lifts, frequency of operation, and exposure to shock loads.

Periodic wire rope and load chain inspections should be performed in conjunction with the overall crane periodic inspection. Inspect the entire length of each rope. Check the wire ropes for:

- a) Items listed for frequent wire rope inspection
- b) Items listed for the monthly wire rope inspection
- c) Reduction of rope diameter below nominal diameter resulting from loss of core support, internal or external corrosion, or wear of outside wires
- d) Severely corroded or broken wires at end connections
- e) Severely corroded, cracked, bent, worn, or improperly applied end connections
- f) Improper and insufficient rope lubrication
- g) Evidence of heat or other damage from any source

Additional care should be taken when inspecting sections where rapid deterioration may take place, such as a section in contact with saddles, equalizer sheave or other sheaves, and sections of rope at or near terminal ends. Refer to the *Rigging Manual* or the rope manufacturer for recommendations for replacing the wire rope. Clean and apply lubrication, if required, according to manufacturer's recommendations.

Ropes that have been idle for a period of 1 month or more due to shutdown or storage shall be given a thorough inspection by a qualified wire rope inspector, which shall include running and standing ropes and be equal to a periodic inspection as previously described. The inspection shall be completed prior to the equipment's return to service. Be particularly cognizant of the condition of the wire rope lubricant.

Periodic load chain inspections are required and should be performed in conjunction with the overall crane periodic inspection. A periodic inspection is more thorough than the monthly inspection and shall include a careful link-by-link inspection of the load chain.

- a) Check welded link load chains for:
- b) Link wear that is less than 90 percent of the original bar diameter
- c) Nicking, cracking, or corrosion of a link that, when ground out to a smooth surface, leaves less than 90 percent of the original bar diameter
- d) Stiffening or poor hinging of the linkage
- e) Distortion by bending or kinking of 15 percent of any overall link dimension
- f) Evidence of heat damage
- g) Elongation in excess of the manufacturer's recommended allowable
- h) Worn, nicked, or corroded fittings

For inspection of roller type load chain, test the hoist under load in lifting and lowering directions and observe that the chain feeds smoothly into and away from the sprockets. If the chain binds, jumps, or is noisy, first see that it is clean and properly lubricated. If the trouble persists, inspect the chain for the following:

- a) Elongation following the hoist manufacturer's instructions.
- b) Chain twist – Replace the chain if, in any 5-foot section, the twist exceeds 15 degrees.
- c) Check for straightness in the plane perpendicular to the plane of the rollers. A chain that has a bow exceeding 0.25 inch in any 5-foot section shall be replaced.

Additional inspection of the chain should be made by removing the chain from the hoist and cleaning it thoroughly in an acid-free solvent. Then check the chain for any of the following deficiencies:

- a) Pins turned from their original position
- b) Rollers that do not run free with light finger pressure
- c) Points that cannot be flexed by easy hand pressure
- d) Side plates that are spread open
- e) Corrosion, pitting, or discoloration of the chain
- f) Gouges, nicks, or weld splatter

Refer to the Rigging Manual or the chain's manufacturer for guidelines on replacing the chain. Clean and apply lubrication, if required, according to manufacturer's recommendations.

#### *10. Hooks*

**General.**—This section applies to crane or hoist hooks. Hooks used with rigging are described in the section on rigging hardware. Hooks shall meet or exceed the requirements of ANSI/ASME B30.10, "Hooks." Hooks shall meet the manufacturer's recommendations and not be overloaded. Swivel hooks should rotate freely. Latch-equipped hooks shall be used unless the application makes using a latch impractical or unnecessary.

**Marking.**—The manufacturer's identification shall be forged or die-stamped on the hook.

**Throat Latches.**—All hooks shall be equipped with a latch, or mousing, that bridges the throat opening, unless the application makes using the latch impractical or unsafe. Unless there is a specific unsafe or impractical situation, use of the hook latch should be considered as mandatory.

Hooks shall be inspected at the frequency previously noted in section 6.5. If any damage is found, the hardware shall be removed from service. A designated person shall include the following items in his inspection:

*Initial Inspections.* All new and repaired hooks shall be inspected to ensure compliance with the applicable provisions of ANSI/ASME B30.10, “Hooks,” prior to initial use. Document this inspection as required.

*Pre-use and Daily Inspections.* At the start of each shift or daily use, each hook shall be visually inspected by the operator or other designated person. No records are required. Inspect the hook for the following:

- a) Cracks, nicks, and gouges.
- b) Any sign of deformation such as bending, twisting, or increase in throat opening.
- c) Chemical damage.
- d) Check hook latch operation for damaged or malfunctioning latch. Check that the latch fully engages.

*Frequent Inspections.* Visually inspect hook for the same items as with a pre-use or daily inspection such as cracks, nicks, gouges, chemical damage, deformation, and hook latch operation. Check that swivel hooks are free to rotate. Also observe during operation and include:

- a) Check for abnormal wear.
- b) Check the hook attachment and securing point.
- c) Check for excessive damage from rust, especially on threaded hook attachments.

*Periodic Inspections.* As required, document the periodic inspection. Measurements are required only if the inspector finds evidence of distortion or damage. Hooks having any deficiencies shall be removed from service until repaired or replaced.

In the inspection, include the requirements of the “frequent inspection” previously discussed. Lubricate swivel and sheave bearings as required. With hooks that are occasionally submerged in water or show signs of corrosion, disassemble the load block to inspect the hook shank. In this case, inspect for proper lubrication, corrosion damage on threaded shanks and nuts, or excessive clearance.

Hooks with any of the following conditions shall be removed from service until repaired or replaced.

- a) An increase in throat opening of more than 15 percent (or as recommended by the manufacturer).
- b) A bend or twist of more than 10 degrees from the plane of the unbent hook (or as recommended by the manufacturer).
- c) Wear exceeding 10 percent of the original sectional dimension of the hook or its load pin (or as recommended by the manufacturer).
- d) Any visible crack.
- e) Inoperable hook latch or a hook with a latch that does not close the full throat opening.
- f) A self-locking hook that does not lock.

Dated and signed inspection records shall be kept on file and readily available.

Annual Nondestructive Testing (NDT) such as magnetic particle, die penetrant, or other nondestructive test are not required but are recommended for hooks that are submitted to severe or heavy service or hooks with questionable defects. It also is recommended that the manufacturer conducts a NDT on any new crane/hoist hooks. NDT records, traceable to the hook by serial number or other identifier, shall be kept on file as long as the hook remains in service.

Minor discontinuities may be removed by limited and controlled grinding. This work should be performed by a qualified person. Cracks, nicks, and gouges may be removed by grinding longitudinally, following the contour of the hook, provided that no dimension is reduced more than 10 percent (or as recommended by the manufacturer) of its original value. When performing this work, using a NDT is recommended. Contact the Mechanical Equipment Group, 86-68410, for further guidelines prior to grinding.

**Operation.**—Operating practices and guidelines for using rigging hooks are as follows:

- a) Never lift a load that exceeds the load rating of the hook.
- b) Avoid shock loading the hook.
- c) Always have the load centered in the base (bowl or saddle) of the hook.
- d) Avoid side or back loading the hook.
- e) Insure that the load is not carried on the throat latch.
- f) Load duplex (sister) hooks equally on both sides.
- g) Do not load the pinhole in duplex (sister) hooks beyond the rated load of the hook.

## 6.11 Ropes, Slings, Chains, and Rigging Hardware

### 6.11.1 General Maintenance and Inspection Requirements

*Reclamation Safety and Health Standards*, section 18, provides information on ropes, slings, chains, and accessories and their safe use. It is based on safety regulations set forth in OSHA 1910.184 “Slings,” and OSHA 1926.251 “Rigging Equipment for Material Handling” (Construction). The *Rigging Manual* published by the Construction Safety Association of Ontario, 21 Voyager Court South, Etobicoke, Ontario, Canada M9W 5M7 has been designated as the Reclamation *Rigging Manual*. This publication provides information on safe rigging, load capacities of slings and other rigging equipment, and the inspection of wire rope and slings. The *Rigging Manual* should be used as a guide to determine whether rigging practices are safe and conform with industry-wide practices; and while its use is recommended, it is advisory in nature and intended to complement the safety requirements of *Reclamation Safety and Health Standards*, section 18 and appendices D and E. ANSI/ ASME B30.9 “Slings,” ANSI/ASME B30.10 “Hooks,” and ANSI/ASME B30.26 “Rigging Hardware” are also helpful references in using and inspecting rigging.

Rigging equipment shall be inspected prior to use on each shift and as necessary during its use to ensure that it is safe. Defective equipment that is repairable should immediately be clearly

marked as unsafe and removed from service. Repairs should be made by the manufacturer or in accordance with the manufacturer's written instructions. Repaired equipment shall be tested at twice their rated safe working load. Defective equipment that is not repairable should be cut in half or otherwise rendered unusable to ensure that it will not be reused.

When using multiple-leg slings (three or four legs), two of the legs should be capable of supporting the total load. Multiple-leg slings shall be selected to suit the most heavily loaded leg rather than the total weight.

Capacity charts should be consulted, and all variables (such as sling angle) should be considered to ensure that the rigging hardware's rated capacity is not exceeded by the load being lifted. Slings shall not be used with loads in excess of the rated capacities shown in the rigging tables and in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

### **6.11.2 Inspections**

Sling inspection is divided into three inspection classifications based upon the (a) frequency of sling use, (b) severity of service conditions, (c) nature of lifts, and (d) historical experience of the service life of slings in similar conditions. The three general classifications of inspections are as defined.

*Initial Inspections.* Prior to use, all new, altered, modified, or repaired slings shall be inspected by a designated person.

*Frequent Inspections.* OSHA 1910.184 and Reclamation requires that each sling be visually inspected by the operator or other designated person at the start of each shift or daily use.<sup>40</sup> No records are required.

*Periodic Inspections.* A visual inspection by a designated person is required. Inspection records, as to the apparent condition, are required to be maintained.

- a) Normal service – annually
  - Operating at less than 85 percent of rated load and not more than 10 lift/cycles per hour except for isolated instances.
- b) Severed service – monthly to quarterly
  - Operating at normal service under abnormal operating conditions (i.e., extreme temperatures, corrosive atmospheres).
- c) Special or infrequent service – as recommended by a qualified person before the first occurrence and as directed by him for any subsequent occurrences.

Under no condition shall inspection intervals be greater than once every 12 months.

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<sup>40</sup> Occupational Safety and Health Administration, "Slings," 1910.184, 1910-184(d); Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, section 18, 18.1.6 a.

Damaged or defective slings shall be immediately removed from service. Attachments should be replaced and not repaired.

Periodic load testing of slings is not recommended.

### 6.11.3 Operating Practices

Proper operating practices and guidelines applicable to all types of slings are as follows:

- a) Slings having suitable characteristics for the type of load, hitch, and environment shall be selected.
- b) The weight of the load shall be within the rated load (working load limit) of the sling.
- c) Slings shall not be shortened or lengthened by knotting, twisting, or other methods not approved by the sling manufacturer.
- d) Slings that appear to be damaged shall not be used unless they are inspected and accepted as usable according to the stated inspection requirements.
- e) The sling shall be hitched or rigged in a manner providing control of the load.
- f) Sharp corners in contact with the sling should be padded with material of sufficient strength to minimize damage to the sling.
- g) Portions of the human body should be kept from between the sling and the load and from between the sling and the crane/hoist hook.
- h) Personnel should stand clear of the suspended load.
- i) Personnel should not ride the sling.
- j) Shock loading is prohibited.
- k) Slings should not be pulled from under a load when the load is resting on the sling.
- l) Slings should be stored in an area where they will not be subjected to mechanical damage, corrosive action, moisture, extreme heat, or kinking.
- m) Twisting and kinking the legs (branches) shall be avoided.
- n) The load applied to the hook should be centered in the bowl of the hooks to prevent point loading on the hook, unless the hook is designed for point loading.
- o) During lifting, with or without load, personnel shall be alert for possible snagging.
- p) In a basket hitch, the load should be balanced to prevent slippage.
- q) The sling's legs (branches) should contain or support the load so that the load remains under control.
- r) Slings should be long enough so that the rated load is adequate when the angle of the legs (branches) is taken into consideration.
- s) Slings should not be dragged on the floor or over an abrasive surface.

### 6.11.4 Alloy Steel Chain Slings

Chain for alloy steel chain slings shall conform to the requirements of ASTM A391/A391M, "Standard Specification for Grade 80 Alloy Steel Chain."

**Rated Load.**—Refer to the Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, the Rigging Manual, or the chain's manufacturer for guidelines on sizing and safe workload of the chain. Rated loads for alloy steel chain slings shall be based on a minimum design factor of 4.

**Proof Testing.**—Before use, each new, repaired, or reconditioned alloy steel chain sling, including all welded components in the sling assembly, shall be proof tested by the sling manufacturer or repairing agency to twice the rated capacity. Refer to the Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, the Rigging Manual, or the chain's manufacturer for other proof testing criteria guidelines.

**Sling Identification.**—Alloy steel chain slings shall have permanently affixed durable identification stating manufacturer's name or trademark, chain grade and size, number of legs, rated load and angle, and reach. Repaired or worn sling shall be labeled to reflect any reduced capacity.

**Environment.**—Alloy steel chains shall be permanently removed from service if heated above 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit ( $^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) and capacities reduced if exposed above 600  $^{\circ}\text{F}$ . The chain manufacturer should be consulted when chain slings are to be used in temperatures of -40  $^{\circ}\text{F}$  or below.

The sling manufacturer should be consulted before slings are used around chemicals, especially caustic, acid, or oxidizing environments.

**Attachments.**—Hooks, rings, oblong and pear shaped links, coupling links, or other attachments shall have a rated capacity at least equal to that of the alloy steel chain of which they are used; or where impractical, the sling shall be marked with a rated capacity that is consistent with the least working load rating of any component. Standard attachments should be of a size recommended by the sling manufacturer. All welded components in the sling shall be proof-load-tested as components or as part of the sling assembly. Makeshift or job-made links or fasteners formed from bolts or rods shall not be used. Where used, handles shall be welded to the master link or hook before heat treating. (This prohibits welding on chain slings in the field.) Other types of attachments shall meet the requirements of ANSI/ASME B30.26, "Rigging Hardware." Hook characteristics shall meet the requirements of ANSI/ASME B30.10, "Hooks."

**Repairs.**—Any hazardous condition disclosed by the inspection requirements shall be corrected before use is resumed. Repairs shall be made only by the chain manufacturer or qualified personnel.

*Initial Inspection.* Before use, all new, altered, modified, or repaired chain slings shall have an initial inspection conducted by a designated person.

*Frequent Inspections.* Inspect for defects and damage. Any found deficiencies shall cause the sling to be set aside for periodic inspection. Chain and attachments should display no sign of wear, nicks, cracks, breaks, gouges, stretch, bends, weld splatter, discoloration from excessive temperature, or excessive throat opening of hooks. Chain links and attachments shall hinge

freely with adjacent links. Latches on hooks, if present, should hinge freely and seat properly without distortion.

*Periodic Inspections.* Perform a complete link-by-link inspection of the sling. The inspection shall include all items described in the frequent inspection. In addition, each link and attachment shall be individually examined, taking care to expose the inner-link surfaces of the chain and chain attachment. Refer to the Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, the Rigging Manual, or the chain's manufacturer for guidelines on the replacement of the chain.

A dated record of this inspection shall be maintained and available for examinations.

**Operating Practices.—**

- a) Multiple-leg (branch) chain slings shall be selected according to the Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, the Rigging Manual, or the chain's manufacturer for guidelines. Use the rated load given for the next lower angle for operations at angles between the specific angles listed in the table.
- b) When used in a choker hitch arrangement, slings shall be selected to prevent the load developed on any portion of the sling from exceeding the rated load of the chain sling components.

### 6.11.5 Wire Rope Slings

Wire rope slings are made from various grades and types of wire rope. Rated loads of wire rope slings shall be specified by the manufacturer, with a design factor of at least 5. Rotation-resistant wire rope shall not be used for slings.

**Minimum Sling Length.**—Cable laid, wire and braided slings, sling grommets, and endless slings shall have a minimum length as defined in OSHA 1920.184.

**Rated Load.**—Refer to the Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, the Rigging Manual, or the wire rope manufacturer for guidelines and tables on the sizing and safe workload of the rope.

**Proof Testing.**—Job-made or repaired slings require proof testing.

- a) Hand-tucked slings shall be tested with a proof load that is a minimum of the rated load and shall not exceed 1.25 times the rated load.
- b) Wire rope clips shall be tested with a proof load that is a minimum of the rated load and shall not exceed two times the rated load (refer to the section, "Wire Rope Clamps").
- c) Other types of wire rope sling assemblies, including mechanical splice, zinc-poured, resin poured, and swaged socket, shall be proof tested to two times the vertical rated load.
- d) The proof load for multiple-leg bridle slings shall be applied to the individual legs. The load for the individual legs shall be consistent with the particular single-leg assembly stated above. The master link to which the multiple legs are connected shall be proof loaded to two times the force applied by the combined legs.

Refer to the Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, the Rigging Manual, or the wire rope manufacturer for proof testing criteria.

**Sling Identification.**—Wire rope slings shall be labeled with a permanent tag or other identification method. The identifier shall state the manufacturer's name and rated load. The load test date and periodic inspection due date is also beneficial.

**Environment.**—Fiber core wire rope slings of all grades shall not be exposed to temperatures in excess of 180 °F or less than -40 °F. Wire rope slings of any grade shall be used only between 400 °F and -60 °F.

The sling manufacturer should be consulted before slings are used around chemicals—especially caustic, acid, or oxidizing environments.

**Minimum Sling Lengths.**—Slings, made of rope with a 6 by 19 and 6 by 37 construction, and cable-laid slings shall have a minimum clear length of rope 10 times the rope diameter between splices, sleeves, or end fittings. Braided slings shall have a minimum clear length of 40 times. Grommets and endless slings shall have a minimum circumferential length of 96 times the body diameter of the grommet or endless sling.

**End Attachments.**—All welded load-bearing components (welded before or after assembly) in the sling shall have a design factor of 5:1 and shall be proof tested by the manufacturer or the manufacturer's agent to twice their rated load. Welding of handles or any other accessories to end attachments, except covers to thimbles, shall be performed prior to assembly of the sling. Eyes in wire rope slings shall not be formed using knots. Other types of attachments shall meet the requirements of ANSI/ASME B30.26, "Rigging Hardware." Hook characteristics shall meet the requirements of ANSI/ASME B30.10, "Hooks."

**Special Cautions.—**

- a) Wire rope clamps (clips) shall not be used to fabricate wire rope slings except when the application of the sling prevents using a prefabricated sling or when the specific application is designed by a qualified person. When used, slings fabricated using wire rope clamps shall be derated to 80 percent of the rated wire rope load capacity to account for the efficiency of the clamps. Wire rope clamps must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. The nuts on the clamps must be checked periodically and retorqued to the recommended value. Slings made with wire rope clips should not be used as a choker hitch.
- b) Wire rope wedge sockets shall not be used to fabricate wire rope slings. Refer to the additional information given in the "Rigging Hardware" section of this manual.
- c) Slings with eyes formed by folding back the rope (not a Flemish eye loop) and secured with one or more metal sleeves pressed (not forged) over the wire rope junction are prohibited.
- d) Slings shall not be made from rotation-resistant wire rope.

**Repairs and Replacement.**—Wire rope slings shall be removed from service if any of the following conditions exist:

- a) For strand-laid and single-part slings, ten randomly distributed broken wires in one rope lay or five broken wires in one strand in one rope lay.
- b) Broken wires in braided and cable-laid slings.
- c) Severe localized abrasion or scraping of one-third the original diameter of outside individual wires.
- d) Kinking, crushing, bird-caging, or any other damage resulting in distortion of the rope structure.
- e) Evidence of heat damage.
- f) End attachments that are cracked, deformed, or worn to the extent that the strength of the sling is substantially affected.
- g) Severe corrosion of the rope or end attachments.
- h) Hooks that have been opened more than 15 percent of the normal throat opening measured at the narrowest point or twisted more than 10 degrees from the plane of the unbent hook.

Refer to the Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, the Rigging Manual, or the wire rope manufacturer for guidelines on when to replace the wire rope.

**Inspections.**—Because many variable factors are involved, no precise inspection criteria can be given for determining the exact time for replacement of a sling. In this respect, safety depends largely on a qualified person using good judgment.

*Frequent Inspections.* All slings shall be visually inspected each day by the person using the sling. Slings should be inspected for:

- a) Distortion of rope in the sling such as kinking, crushing, unstranding, bird-caging, main strand displacement, or core protrusion. If loss of rope diameter in short rope lengths or unevenness of other strands is observed, the sling or slings should be replaced.
- b) General corrosion.
- c) Broken or cut strands.
- d) Number, distribution, and type of visible broken wires (ten randomly distributed broken wire in one rope lay or five broken wires in one strand in one rope lay).

*Periodic Inspections.* A wire rope sling periodic inspection shall be performed by a qualified inspector with the frequency of inspection based on the frequency of sling use, severity of service conditions, and the nature of the lifts being made. The periodic inspection shall be made at least on an annual basis. The individual inspection of each sling shall be documented.

Typical methods of sling documentation is to mark a serial number on the sling and maintain inspection records by serial numbers, institute a comprehensive marking program such as color coding, or mark each sling with a tag that indicates when the next periodic inspection is required. The tag then becomes the record. Inspection shall be of the entire length of each sling including splices, end attachments, and fittings. Deterioration that would result in original strength loss

shall be observed and a determination made whether further using the sling would constitute a hazard.

**Operating Practices.**—In addition to the operating practices referenced earlier, the following practices apply to wire slings:

- a) Multiple-leg slings shall be selected so as not to introduce a working load in direct tension in any leg greater than that permitted. Triple and quadruple leg sling rating should be considered the same as a double-sling rating. If rigging techniques, verified by a qualified rigger, ensures that load is evenly distributed, then full use of three legs is allowed. Special rigging techniques verified by a qualified engineer shall be required to prove a load is evenly distributed over four or more sling legs.
- b) In a choker hitch, slings shall be long enough so that the choker fitting chokes on the wire rope body and never on the fitting.
- c) Slings shall not be inspected by passing bare hands over the wire rope body. Broken wires, if present, may injure the hands.
- d) Fiber core wire rope should not be subjected to degreasing or a solvent, because it will damage the core.
- e) Single-leg slings with hand-tucked splices can be unlaid by rotation. Care should be taken to minimize rotation.
- f) An object engaging the eye of a loop eye sling should not be greater in width than one-half the length of the loop eye.

**Onsite Sling Fabrication.**—Slings may be fabricated onsite by knowledgeable craftsmen. Slings shall be made only from new wire rope. When swaged fittings are used, the fitting and swaging machine manufacturer's recommendations shall be followed. Thimbles should be used unless their use makes the sling impractical.

- a) Using wire rope clips should be avoided and only used in special cases.
- b) The terminal efficiency of hand tucked splices is reduced. This sling type is also usually more expensive than most commercially made slings.
- c) Using Flemish eye splices with swaged sockets is usually the best method and shall be used except when use is impractical.

### 6.11.6 Metal Mesh Slings

Using metal mesh slings in power and pumping facilities is limited. Refer to ANSI/ASME 30.9, the *Rigging Manual*, or the sling manufacturer for guidelines if this type of sling is used.

### 6.11.7 Natural and Synthetic Fiber Rope Slings

Slings manufactured from conventional three-strand natural or synthetic fiber rope are not recommended for use in lifting service. Refer to ANSI/ASME 30.9, *Reclamation Safety and Health Standards*, the *Rigging Manual*, or the sling manufacturer if this type of sling is used.

## 6.11.8 Synthetic Webbing Slings

### Construction.—

- a) The webbing of synthetic web slings shall have sufficient certified tensile strength to meet the sling manufacturer's requirements. Stitching is the only method that is to be used to attach end fittings to the webbing and to form eyes. Webbing ends shall be sealed by heat or other methods to prevent unraveling. The webbing shall have a uniform thickness and width.
- b) Coatings shall be of a suitable material that will seal the sling to help resist abrasion and prevent penetration of foreign particles and dirt. The coating shall offer protection from sunlight or ultraviolet degradation and increase the coefficient of friction.
- c) If synthetic web slings incorporate metal fittings, the fittings shall be of sufficient strength to sustain twice the rated load of the sling without permanent deformation and have a minimum breaking strength equal to five times the rated capacity of the sling. Slings incorporating reused or welded fittings shall be proof tested to two times the rated load to the sling. Surfaces shall be cleanly finished and without sharp edges that might damage the webbing. The eye opening in the fitting shall be the proper shape and size to ensure that the fitting will seat properly in the hook or other attachment. Slings with aluminum fittings shall not be used where chemical fumes or sprays from caustic or acidic liquids are present.

**Marking (Sling Identification).**—Synthetic web slings shall be labeled (a sewn-on leather tag is recommended). The label shall state the following:

- Manufacturer's name or trademark
- Manufacturer's code or stock number
- Rated loads for the types of hitches used
- Type of synthetic web material

An additional tag, sticker, or other identifier shall be added by the user to indicate when the next periodic inspection is required.

If the synthetic web sling is to be used for critical lifts, the tag or other identification means shall be used to indicate that a proof test has been performed.

**Design Factor.**—The design factor for synthetic web slings shall be a minimum of 5.

**Rated Load.**—A synthetic web sling shall not be used at a load greater than shown on its tag. Refer to the Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, the Rigging Manual, or the wire rope manufacturer for guidelines and tables on sizing and safe work load of the synthetic web slings.

**Proof Test.**—Proof testing is not required for synthetic web slings but may be beneficial if the slings may be used in critical lift situations. Single leg and endless slings shall be proof tested to two times the vertical rated load. Each individual leg of a multiple leg bridle sling would also be tested to two times the vertical rated load.

**Environment.**—High radiation or chemically active environments can destroy the strength of synthetic web slings. Sling materials can be susceptible to caustics and acids. The manufacturer should be consulted before slings are used in chemically active environments. Specific environmental limits are as follows:

- a) Nylon and polyester slings shall not be used at temperatures in excess of 180 °F.
- b) Synthetic web slings that incorporate aluminum fittings shall not be used where fumes, vapors, sprays, mists, or liquids of caustics or acids are present.
- c) Nylon web slings shall not be used where fumes, vapors, sprays, mists, or liquids of acids or phenolics are present.
- d) Polyester web slings shall not be used where fumes, vapors, sprays, mists, or liquids or caustics are present.
- e) Synthetic web slings are not recommended where extensive exposure to sunlight or ultraviolet light is experienced. Most synthetic web slings are especially susceptible to damage by ultraviolet light. Synthetic slings require storage away from exposure to sunlight. Slings that have had long-term exposure to sunlight should be removed from service.

### **Inspections.—**

*Initial Inspections.* Before any new or repaired synthetic web sling is used, it shall be inspected to ensure that the correct sling is being used as well as to determine that it has proper identification.

*Frequent Inspections.* This inspection should be made by the person handling the sling each day the sling is used.

*Periodic Inspections.* A periodic inspection shall be performed by a qualified inspector on a regular basis with frequency of inspection based on the frequency of sling use, severity of service conditions, and the nature of the lifts being made. The periodic inspection shall be made at least annually. The individual inspection of each sling shall be documented. Typical methods of sling documentation is to mark a serial number on the sling and maintain inspection records by serial numbers, institute a comprehensive marking program such as color coding, or mark each sling with a tag that indicates when the next periodic inspection is required. The tag then becomes the record.

**Removal Criteria.**—Synthetic web slings shall be removed from service if the following damage is visible:

- a) Acid, phenolic, or caustic attack
- b) Melting or charring on any part of the sling
- c) Holes, tears, cuts, or snags
- d) Broken or worn stitching in load-bearing splices
- e) Excessive abrasive wear
- f) Knots in any part of the sling
- g) Excessive pitting or corrosion or cracked, distorted, or broken fittings

- h) Other visible indications that cause doubt as to the strength of the sling, such as loss of color that may indicate the potential for ultraviolet light damage

**Repairs.**—Synthetic web slings shall be repaired only by a sling manufacturer or a qualified repair agent. Proof testing is required to twice the rated load for all repaired slings. When repaired, a sling shall be permanently marked to identify the repair agent. Temporary repairs shall not be permitted.

**Additional Operating Practices.**—The following additional operating practices are applicable to using synthetic web slings:

- a) The sling's legs should contain or support the load from the sides above the center of gravity when a basket hitch is used.
- b) In a choker hitch, slings shall be long enough so the choker fitting chokes on the webbing and never on the other fitting.
- c) Nylon and polyester slings shall not be used at temperatures in excess of 180 °F or below -40 °F.
- d) Nylon and polyester web slings lose strength from extensive exposure to sunlight or ultraviolet light. Possible strength loss may be indicated by color loss in the pick threads or outer jacket. If the user suspects sunlight or ultraviolet light damage, the sling shall be taken out of service pending inspection by a qualified person.
- e) Hard or brittle spots in the fabric of synthetic slings may indicate a substantial reduction in strength as a result of damage from chemicals or excessive heat.

### 6.11.9 Rigging Hardware (Shackles, Eyebolts, etc.)

This section summarizes some of the more important requirements to use rigging hardware for lifting service. Rigging hardware standards can be found in ASME/ANSI B30.26, “Rigging Hardware.” Refer to the Reclamation Safety and Health Standards and the Rigging Manual for sizing and additional guidelines for rigging hardware.

This section divides rigging hardware into six different categories:

- 1) Shackles. Types of shackles include anchor, chain, and synthetic sling shackles. Pin types are divided into screw and bolt pins.
- 2) Adjustable Hardware. This includes turnbuckles, eyebolts, eye nuts, swivel hoist rings, and other types of adjustable hardware.
- 3) Compression Hardware. Wire rope clip, wedge sockets, and other types of compression hardware fall under this category.
- 4) Links, Rings, and Swivels.
- 5) Rigging Blocks. Types of rigging blocks include tackle, utility, rolling, and snatch blocks.
- 6) Rigging Hooks.

**Inspections.**—Inspection criteria pertaining to all types of rigging hardware is as follows:

*Initial Inspection.* Prior to use, new, altered, modified, or repaired rigging hardware shall be inspected. Repairs, modifications, or alterations should not be done except as defined by the manufacturer or a qualified person. Replaced parts must meet or exceed the specifications of the original parts. Documentation is not required.

*Frequent Inspection.* Daily or before each shift use, all rigging hardware used shall be visually inspected. Documentation is not required.

*Periodic Inspection.* At least once a year, a complete inspection of all rigging hardware shall be performed by a designated person. Although documentation is not required, the condition, inspection scheduling, and inventory of rigging hardware can easily be tracked through a CMMS and is recommended.

**Training.**—All users of rigging hardware shall be trained to use the hardware, including the selection, inspection, environmental hazards, safety to personnel, and rigging practices particular to that hardware.

**Selection.**—Rigging hardware shall be selected according to the recommendations of the manufacturer or a qualified person.

**Storage.**—Rigging hardware should be stored in an area where it will not be exposed to extreme heat, chemical and corrosive damage, or other potentially damaging conditions.

1) **Shackles**

**General.**—Shackles are manufactured in three configurations to use in rigging: anchor shackles, chain shackles, and synthetic sling shackles. All are available with screw pins, round pins, or safety bolts. Using round pin shackles is not recommended for lifting purposes.

Shackles are sized by the diameter of steel in the bow section rather than the pin size.

Shackle specifications are derived from the following documents:

- a) For shackles 3/16 to 2 1/2 inches, Federal Specification RR-C-271, "Chains and Attachments, Welded and Weldless," applies.
- b) For shackles 1 1/2 to 4 inches, MIL-S-24214, "Shackles, Steel, General Purpose and High Strength," applies.
- c) For shackles 4 1/2 to 8 1/2 inches, ASTM A148M, "Standard Specification for steel Castings, High Strength, for Structural Purposes," should be used.

For sizes that overlap, either RR-C-271 or MIL-S-2414 can be used; however, RR-C-271 is most commonly used.

**Design Factor.**—Shackles manufactured under requirements of RR-C-271 and MIL-S-24214 have a design factor of 5; those specified under the requirements of ASTM A148M have a minimum design factor of 4.

**Proof Test.**—Proof testing is not required for shackles but may be beneficial, especially if the hardware may be used in critical lift situations. A critical lift procedure may call for proof testing or additional load testing. Proof test the hardware with a proof load that is a minimum of two times the rated load. If tested, inspect the hardware for damage after the test.

**Marking and Tagging.**—Each shackle body shall be permanently and legibly marked by the manufacturer. Marking will be raised or stamped letters on the side of the shackle bow with an identifying manufacturer's name or trademark, shackle size, and the rated load (maximum allowable load).

Shackle pins also shall be marked with the manufacturer's name or trademark and the load rating, grade, or material type.

Shackles should be restamped or discarded if the shackle identification becomes illegible. Shackles that have been proof tested shall have a tag or other marking to indicate clearly to the user that proof testing has been done.

**Hostile Environments.**—The shackle manufacturer or qualified person should be contacted before using shackles in a hostile environment. This includes use at temperatures above 400 °F, below -40 °F, or in chemically active environments.

**Shackle Inspection and Removal Criteria.**—The shackle shall have no defect that will interfere with serviceability. Shackles shall be inspected for and removed from service if any damage is found to the shackle which may include the following:

- a) Shackle pins shall fit freely without binding. Pins should fully engage.
- b) The pin shall show no sign of deformation.
- c) Missing or unreadable markings.
- d) Excessive pitting or corrosion.
- e) Thread damage.
- f) Heat damage, weld spatter, or evidence of unauthorized welding.
- g) Any sign of deformation including bent, twisted, distorted, stretched, elongated, cracked, or broken load-bearing parts.
- h) A 10-percent reduction of the original diameter at any point on the body or pin.
- i) Nicks or gouges.
- j) Other conditions that compromise the integrity of the shackle.

Repairs should be made only by the manufacturer or a qualified person. Replacement pins or other parts shall meet or exceed the manufacturer's original specifications.

**Operation.**—Operating practices and guidelines for using shackles are as follows:

- a) Select shackles according to the shackle manufacturer's guidelines. Remember that the stress in the shackle is affected by the loading angle. As the horizontal angle decreases, the stress in the shackle increases.
- b) Never exceed the rated load of the shackle.

- c) Never use shackles that appear to be damaged.
- d) The shackle pin shall never be replaced with a bolt; only a properly fitted pin shall be used. Bolts are not intended to take the load that is normally applied to the pin.
- e) Avoid shock loading.
- f) Avoid contact with sharp edges.
- g) Avoid dragging shackles on the ground or over an abrasive surface.
- h) Shackles shall not be used if the pin cannot be completely seated, with the shoulder making contact with the shackle body.
- i) If side loaded, the shackles rated load should be reduced according to the horizontal angle of the load.
- j) Shackles shall never be pulled at an angle because the capacity will be tremendously reduced. Centralize whatever is being hoisted on the pin by suitable washers or spacers. The load should always be centered in the bow of the shackle.
- k) Screw pin shackles shall not be used if the pin can roll under the load and unscrew.

Bolt shackles should be used when requirements call for long-term installations. This type is better suited than the screw pin type where the pin may rotate or loosen.

2) *Adjustable Hardware*

**General.**—Adjustable hardware includes turnbuckles, eyebolts, eye nuts, and swivel hoist rings.

Turnbuckles are found in the open body and pipe body style and can come with hook, eye, or jaw end fittings. Eyebolts include shoulder nut, nonshoulder nut, nonshoulder machinery, and shoulder machinery types. All should be designed to permanently deform prior to losing the ability to support the load at manufacturer's recommended temperature. Turnbuckles shall meet or exceed the requirements of Federal Specification FF-T-791 (latest revision), "Turnbuckles." Turnbuckles used in hoisting and rigging shall be fabricated from forged alloy steel.

Only shouldered eyebolts (Type 2) shall be used for rigging hardware, except when prohibited by the configuration of the item to which the eyebolt is attached. Reclamation Safety and Health Standards require that all eyebolts be forged alloy steel and equipped with shoulders or collars.<sup>41</sup>

Carbon steel eyebolts are made of forged carbon steel. Alloy steel eyebolts are forged, quenched, and tempered with improved toughness properties and intended primarily for low-temperature applications.

**Design Factor.**—All adjustable hardware shall be designed with a factor of 5.

**Proof Test.**—Proof testing is not required for new adjustable hardware but may be beneficial, especially if the hardware may be used in critical lift situations. A critical lift

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<sup>41</sup> Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, section 18.7.4.

procedure may call for proof testing or additional load testing. Proof test the hardware with a proof load that is a minimum of two times the rated load. If tested, inspect the hardware for damage after the test.

**Marking and Tagging.**—Each turnbuckle, eyebolt, and eye nut shall be marked with the manufacturer name or trademark, the size or rate load, and the grade (for alloy eyebolts). Swivel hoist rings each shall be marked with the manufacturer's name or trademark, the rate load, and the torque value. All hardware should be maintained so that all markings are legible throughout the life of the hardware.

*Eyebolt Marking:*

- a) Carbon Steel Eyebolts. Each eyebolt shall have the manufacturer's name or identification mark forged in raised characters on the eyebolt surface.
- b) Alloy Steel Eyebolts. Each eyebolt shall have the symbol "A" (denoting alloy steel) and the manufacturer's name or identification mark forged in raised characters on the eyebolt surface.

**Hostile Environments.**—When using adjustable hardware in a hostile environment, excluding swivel hoist rings and carbon steel eyebolts, the manufacturer or a qualified person should be contacted before their use. This includes use at temperatures above 400 °F, below -40 °F, or in chemically active environments.

For swivel hoist rings, consult the manufacturer or a qualified person if used at temperatures above 400 °F, below -20 °F, or in chemically active environments. For carbon steel eyebolts, the temperature range is above 275 °F or below 30 °F or in chemically active environments. Note that carbon steel eyebolts are subject to failure from shock loading at temperatures below 30 °F and lose strength at temperatures above 275 °F.

**NOTE:** *Eyebolts manufactured according to ASTM A 489, "Standard Specifications for Carbon Steel Lifting Eyes," are rated for lifting services between +30 °F and +275 °F. These temperature limitations are also referenced in ASME B18.15, "Forged Eyebolts."*

Eyebolts manufactured according to ASTM F 541, "Alloy Steel Eyebolts," are rated for temperatures down to -40 °F. ASTM F 541 requires the symbol "A" to denote alloy steel. Some manufacturer's of carbon steel eyebolts employ manufacturing processes that allow usage at a lower service temperature range. Since most manufacturer's of eyebolts do not publish service temperature limitations, it is the responsibility of the user to contact the manufacturer and obtain this information.

Swivel hoist rings (carbon steel or alloy) may have similar temperature limitations as eyebolts. Components of swivel hoist rings are typically manufactured according to national standards, but there is no national standard governing the entire swivel hoist ring. Specifications for swivel hoist rings, including temperature limitations, are specified by the manufacturer.

Before using eyebolts or swivel hoist rings for lifting service, the following steps should be taken:

- a) Inspect the eyebolt and identify mark forged in raised character. Identify the manufacturer of eyebolts in question. If manufacturer is unknown, use only for lifts above +30 °F.
- b) Determine if manufactured of carbon steel or alloy steel.
- c) Validate with the manufacturer the temperature limitations for use.
- d) Ensure that eyebolts and swivel hoist rings are used within the manufacturer's temperature limitations.

**Adjustable Hardware Inspection and Removal Criteria.**—Adjustable hardware shall be visibly inspected at the frequency previously noted. If any damage is found, the hardware shall be removed from service. A designated person shall include in his inspection the following:

- a) Missing or unreadable markings.
- b) Excessive pitting or corrosion.
- c) Heat damage, weld spatter, or evidence of unauthorized welding.
- d) Any sign of deformation including bent, twisted, distorted, stretched, elongated, cracked, or broken parts.
- e) A 10-percent reduction of the original or catalog dimension at any point.
- f) Excessive nicks or gouges.
- g) Excessive thread damage or wear.
- h) The shank of a eyebolt shall not be undercut and shall be smoothly radiused into the plane of the shoulder.
- i) Swivel hoist rings should be able to freely rotate and pivot.
- j) Other conditions or visible damage that may cause doubt to its continued use.

Repairs should be made only by the manufacturer or a qualified person. Replacement parts shall meet or exceed the manufacturer's original specifications.

**Operation.**—Operating practices and guidelines for using adjustable hardware are as follows:

*Turnbuckles*

- a) Prior to use, verify that all components are in good working condition.
- b) End fitting threads shall fully engage.
- c) When using locking nuts, ensure that they are of the same thread as the turnbuckle ends.
- d) Avoid shock loading.
- e) Do not side load turnbuckles. The turnbuckle should always be in line with the load and in tension.
- f) Rig and secure turnbuckles to prevent unscrewing during lifts. This is especially critical for long-term installations.
- g) Avoid letting turnbuckles contact any obstruction or the load during lifting.
- h) Avoid dragging on the ground or over an abrasive surface.

- i) Use the correct sized wrench in adjusting.

*Eyebolts*

**Manufacturer Installed Eyebolts.**—Eyebolts designed for and permanently installed by the manufacturer on existing engineered equipment are considered part of the engineered equipment. They may not meet all requirements specified for rigging hardware. Eyebolts permanently installed on engineered equipment are acceptable for their intended use as long as they pass visual inspection before use.

It is important to know how the manufacturer of engineered equipment intends to use permanently installed eyebolts. Eyebolts installed by the manufacturer to lift only parts of the engineered equipment are not suitable for lifting the completely assembled piece of equipment. When questions arise regarding using manufacturer-installed eyebolts, the equipment manufacturer or qualified engineer should be consulted.

**Rigging Eyebolts.—**

- a) Select eyebolts in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines.
- b) Never exceed the rated load of the eyebolt.
- c) Avoid shock loading.
- d) Never use eyebolts that appear to be damaged until they are appropriately inspected and accepted as useable.
- e) Eyebolts shall be tight and secured against rotation prior to conducting the lift.
- f) For sizing and safe work loads, see the Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, the Rigging Manual, or the manufacturer for guidelines. The Reclamation Safety and Health Standards states that only eyebolts "equipped with shoulders or collars shall be allowed for hoisting."
- g) The size of the hole shall be checked for the proper size of eyebolt before installation. The condition of the threads in the hole shall be checked to ensure that the eyebolt will secure and that the shoulder can be brought to a snug and uniformly engaged seat. When used on a tapped blind hole, the effective thread length shall be at least 1½ times the diameter of the bolt. When used on a tapped through-hole of less than one diameter thickness, use a nut on the under load side. The nut must be fully engaged. Make sure that the retention nut is of sufficient grade with a minimum strength capable of meeting the safe working load. Torque to manufacturer's recommendations.
- h) When installed, the shoulder of the eyebolt must be flush with the surface. When eyebolts cannot be properly seated and aligned with each other, a steel washer or spacer, not to exceed one thread pitch, may be required to put the plane of the eye in the direction of the load when the shoulder is seated. Proper thread engagement must be maintained. Use a washer with approximately the same diameter as the eyebolt shoulder and the smallest inside diameter that will fit the eyebolt shank. Nuts, washers, and drilled plates shall not be used or assembled to make shouldered eyebolts.
- i) Angular loading of eyebolts should be avoided. Angular loading occurs in any lift in which the lifting force is applied at an angle to the centerline of the eyebolt shank.

Remember that the loading angle affects the stress in the eyebolt. As the horizontal angle decreases, the stress in the eyebolt increases. The working load limit must be reduced when lifting at an angle.

- j) When more than one eyebolt is used in conjunction with multiple-leg rigging, spreader bars, lifting yokes, or lifting beams should be used to eliminate angular loading. Where spreaders, yokes, or beams cannot be used, shouldered eyebolts may be used for angular lifting.
- k) To keep bending forces on the eyebolt to a minimum, the load shall always be applied in the plane of the eye—never in the other direction.
- l) If the hook will not go completely into the eyebolt, use a shackle to avoid loading the hook tip.
- m) Slings shall not be reeved through an eyebolt or reeved through a pair of eyebolts. Only one leg should be attached to each eyebolt.
- n) A size  $\frac{7}{8}$ -inch eyebolt should not be used because a  $7/8\text{-}9$  unified coarse thread (UNC) may be threaded into a 1-8 UNC tapped hole but will fail when loaded.

#### *Eye Nuts*

- a) Eye nuts shall be tight and secured against rotation prior to conducting the lift.
- b) Avoid shock loading.
- c) The eye nut should be used only for in-line loads.
- d) Use a flat washer or lock nut to position the eye nut so that the plane of the eye matches the direction of the load.
- e) Prior to use, verify that all components are in good working condition.
- f) Eye nut threads shall be fully engaged.

#### *Swivel Hoist Rings*

Swivel hoist rings shall be provided with instructions from the manufacturer. Read, understand, and follow the manufacturer's instructions before using a swivel hoist ring. Swivel hoist rings are available in both UNC and metric thread sizes, so they shall also be marked to identify the thread type.

- a) When used on a threaded hole, the effective thread length shall be at least  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times the diameter of the bolt.
- b) A nut and washer shall be used in a through hole. When a swivel hoist ring is installed with a retention nut, make sure that the retention nut is of sufficient grade with a minimum strength capable of meeting the safe working load. The nut must have no less than full thread engagement. To develop safe working load, nuts must meet the standards of ASTM A-560 grade D or DH, or SAE grade 8, standard hex.
- c) To avoid side loading, center the load in the bail of the swivel hoist ring.
- d) The working load limit of the swivel hoist ring must meet or exceed the anticipated angular rigging tension when lifting at an angle. The working load limit must be reduced when used for angular lifting.
- e) The swivel hoist ring shall be free to rotate and pivot. Avoid interference with other components.
- f) Never use swivel hoist rings that show signs of corrosion, wear, or damage.

- g) Tighten the swivel hoist ring to manufacturer torque specifications. A swivel hoist ring bolt may loosen over prolonged service in a permanent installation. Periodically, verify proper torque and retighten the mounting bolt as recommended by the manufacturer.
- h) The bushing flange shall make full contact with the load surface.
- i) Spacers or washers shall not be used between the bushing flange and the load mounting surface.
- j) Avoid shock loading.
- k) Prior to use, verify that all components are in good working condition.

3) *Compression Hardware*

**General.**—Compression hardware used for rigging consists of forged wire rope clips and wedge sockets. Clips (also called clamps) shall meet or exceed the requirements of Federal Specification FF-C-450, “Clamps, Wire Rope.” Wire rope clamps come in several different types. Type 1 is a single grip, single saddle wire rope clamp (one single saddle with U-bolt). Type 11 is a double grip, double saddle wire rope clamp (two separate saddles with a U-bolt). Type 111 is a double grip, double saddle wire rope clamp. A Type 11, Class 1 wire rope clamp has integral saddles with two L-shaped clamps; and a Type 11, Class 2 wire rope clamp has separate hex head bolts and nuts. Type IV half clamps are fabricated in matched pairs, and parts are not interchangeable.

For additional information, see the Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, the Rigging Manual, or manufacturer guidelines.

*Wire Rope Clip Assemblies*

- a) Consult the clip manufacturer, the wire rope manufacturer, or other qualified person prior to use on wire rope with a plastic coating or impregnation.
- b) On U-bolt clips, always place the saddle on the live end of the wire rope and the U-bolt on the dead end side.
- c) Use the required number of clips, spacing, and turn-back as recommended by the manufacturer, qualified person, or the referenced sources as described. Tighten wire rope clips to the recommended torque.
- d) Load test the connection to at least the expected working load after assembly. After unloading, wire rope clips then shall be re-torqued.

*Wedge Sockets Assemblies*

- a) Wedge sockets shall be assembled only by a qualified person according to manufacturer's instructions.
- b) Consult the wedge socket manufacturer, wire rope manufacturer, or other qualified person prior to use on wire rope with a plastic coating or impregnation.
- c) The live end of the wire rope in the wedge socket cavity shall be in alignment with the socket's pin.
- d) Match the proper socket and wedge combination to the wire rope to be installed. Do not interchange different manufacturer's components.

- e) The length of the wire rope dead end tail shall be as required by the manufacturer or qualified person.
- f) Secure the dead end tail of the wire rope as required by the manufacturer or qualified person. Secure the dead end tail of the wire rope to the live end of the rope such that it restricts the movement of the live end.
- g) After assembly and before use, load the connection to fully seat the wedge.

**Design Factor.**—Wire rope clips and sockets do not have a conventional design factor. They are required to have a minimum connection efficiency of 80 percent. The connection efficiency is based on the wire ropes minimum breaking force.

**Proof Testing.**—Proof testing of compression hardware is not required. If proof tested, the proof test is based on the wire rope minimum breaking force. Proof test to a minimum of 40 percent, but not to exceed 50 percent, of the wire rope minimum breaking force.

**Marking and Tagging.**—Each wire rope clip saddle and each wedge socket shall be marked with the manufacturer's name or trademark and the size. Wedge sockets shall also be marked with the model, if required, to match the wedge to the body. Wire rope clip and wedge socket components should be restamped or discarded if the shackle identification becomes illegible.

**Hostile Environments.**—Before using wire rope clips and wedge sockets in a hostile environment, the manufacturer or a qualified person should be contacted. This includes using at temperatures above 400 °F, below -40 °F, or in chemically active environments.

**Compression Hardware Inspection and Removal Criteria.**—Compression hardware shall be visibly inspected at the frequency previously indicated. If any damage is found, the compression hardware shall be removed from service. A designated person shall include in his inspection the following:

- a) Missing or unreadable markings.
- b) Excessive pitting or corrosion.
- c) Excessive nicks or gouges.
- d) Heat damage, weld spatter, or evidence of unauthorized welding.
- e) Any sign of deformation including bent, twisted, distorted, stretched, elongated, cracked, or broken parts.
- f) A 10-percent reduction of the original or catalog diameter at any point.
- g) Unmatched or unauthorized replacement components. Assembled clamps should contain the same size, type, and class parts.
- h) Insufficient number of wire rope clips.
- i) Improperly tightened wire rope clips.
- j) Indications of slippage.
- k) Indications of damage to the wire rope.
- l) Improper assembly.

- m) Other conditions or visible damage that may cause doubt as to the integrity of the hardware or wire rope.

Repairs should be made only by the manufacturer or a qualified person. Replacement parts shall meet or exceed the manufacturer's original specifications.

**Operation.**—Operating practices and guidelines for using compression hardware are as follows:

- a) Select all compression hardware according to the manufacturer's guidelines.
- b) Never exceed the rated load of the piece or the wire rope it secures.
- c) Never use compression hardware that appears to be damaged until it is appropriately inspected and accepted as useable.
- d) Assemble wire rope clips and wedge sockets and use according to manufacturer instructions, the *Rigging Manual*, and appendix D of the *Reclamation Safety and Health Standards*.
- e) Avoid side loading wedge sockets.
- f) Avoid shock loading.
- g) Avoid letting wire rope clips contact any obstruction or the load during lifting.
- h) Avoid dragging clips on the ground or over an abrasive surface. Avoid contact with sharp edges that could damage the wedge socket.
- i) Avoid any impact that might dislodge the wedge socket from the body.
- j) Using wire rope clips to fabricate slings is prohibited except for situations as explained under the section on slings.

4) *Links, Rings, and Swivels*

**General.**—Links and rings include oblong, round, and pear shapes. Swivels include eye and eye and eye and jaw types. The hardware rated load shall be according to the manufacturer's recommendation. Specifications for links and rings are derived from Federal Specification RR-C-271, "Chains and Attachments, Welded and Weldless." Links and rings should be forged steel and weldless. Welded rings are not recommended but may be used if designed by a qualified engineer and subjected to NDT.

**Design Factor.**—All links, rings, and swivels shall have a minimum design factor of 5. Rings manufactured to the requirements of RR-C-271 have a minimum design factor of 6.

**Proof Tests.**—Welded links and rings are required to be proof tested by the manufacturer or qualified person prior to initial use. All others do not require a proof test. The proof load shall be a minimum of two times the rated load.

**Marking and Tagging.**—Each new link, ring, and swivel shall be marked with the manufacturer's name or trademark, the size or rated load, and the grade (if required). Links and rings that have been proof tested shall have a tag or other marking to clearly indicate to the user that proof testing has been done.

**Hostile Environments.**— Before using steel links, rings, or swivels in a hostile environment, the manufacturer or a qualified person should be contacted. This includes their use at temperatures above 400 °F, below -40 °F, or in chemically active environments.

**Link, Ring, and Swivel Inspection and Removal Criteria.**—Links, rings, and swivels shall be visibly inspected at the required frequency previously indicated at the start of this section. If any damage is found, the compression hardware shall be removed from service. A designated person shall include in his inspection the following:

- a) Missing or unreadable markings.
- b) Excessive pitting or corrosion.
- c) Heat damage, weld spatter, or evidence of unauthorized welding.
- d) Any sign of deformation including bent, twisted, distorted, stretched, elongated, cracked, or broken parts.
- e) A 10-percent reduction of the original or catalog dimension at any point.
- f) Swivels shall have the ability to freely rotate when not loaded. Also check swivels for loose or missing nuts, bolts, cotter pins, snap rings, or other fasteners.
- g) Other conditions or visible damage that may cause doubt as to the integrity of the hardware.

Repairs should be made only by the manufacturer or a qualified person. Replacement parts shall meet or exceed the manufacturer's original specifications.

**Operation.**—Operating practices and guidelines for using links, rings, and swivels are as follows:

*Links and Rings.*

- a) Select links and rings according to the manufacturer's guidelines. Remember that the loading angle affects the stress in the link or ring. As the horizontal angle decreases, the stress and the resulting effective load in the piece increases.
- b) Never exceed the rated load of the link or ring.
- c) Never use links or rings that appear to be damaged until they are appropriately inspected and accepted as useable.
- d) Avoid contact with obstructions that could damage the link or ring.
- e) Avoid shock loading.
- f) Avoid dragging shackles on the ground or over an abrasive surface.
- g) Assure that the link or ring is of the proper shape and size to seat properly in the hook or lifting device.
- h) Do not exceed a 120-degree angle when using multiple slings or rigging hardware off of a link or ring.
- i) The horizontal angle of loading should not be less than 30 degrees unless approved by a qualified person.

*Swivels*

- a) Select swivels according to the manufacturer's guidelines. Remember that the loading angle affects the stress in the swivel. As the horizontal angle decreases, the stress and the resulting effective load in the piece increases.
- b) Never exceed the rated load of the swivel.
- c) Never use swivels that appear to be damaged until they are appropriately inspected and accepted as useable.
- d) Swivels are not intended to be rotated under load.
- e) Swivels shall only be used for in-line loads.
- f) Avoid shock loads.
- g) Assure that the swivel is of the proper shape and size to seat properly in the hook or lifting device.
- h) Avoid contact with obstructions that could damage the swivel.

5) *Rigging Blocks*

**General.**—This section applies to rigging blocks only and does not apply to crane hoist blocks. Rigging blocks include tackle, utility, rolling, and snatch blocks and can include hooks, eyes swivels, yokes, shackles, pins, and other hardware. The hardware rated load shall be according to the manufacturer's recommendation. The blocks rated load is the maximum load applied to the main fitting and not the line pull.

**Design Factor.**—All rigging blocks shall have a minimum design factor of 4.

**Proof Tests.**—Rigging blocks are not required to be proof tested by the purchaser unless specified.

**Marking and Tagging.**—Each rigging block shall be marked with the manufacturer's name or trademark, the rated load, and the rope size(s).

**Hostile Environments.**—Consult the manufacturer or a qualified person before using rigging blocks in a hostile environment. This includes their use at temperatures above 150 °F, below -0 °F, or in chemically active environments.

**Rigging Block Inspection and Removal Criteria.**—Rigging blocks shall be visibly inspected at the frequency previously indicated. If any damage is found, the rigging block shall be removed from service. Inspect for the following:

- a) Missing or unreadable markings
- b) Wobble or misaligned sheaves
- c) Excessive sheave groove wear
- d) Loose or missing nuts, bolts, cotter pins, snap rings, or other fasteners
- e) Excessive pitting or corrosion
- f) Heat damage, weld spatter, or evidence of unauthorized welding
- g) Any sign of deformation including bent, twisted, distorted, stretched, elongated, cracked, or broken parts
- h) A 10-percent reduction of the original or catalog dimension at any point
- i) Excessive wear, nicks, or gouges

- j) Damage to load bearing threads
- k) Other conditions or visible damage that may cause doubt as to the integrity of the hardware

Repairs should be made only by the manufacturer or a qualified person. Replacement parts shall meet or exceed the manufacturer's original specifications.

**Operation.**—Operating practices and guidelines for using links, rings, and swivels are as follows:

- a) Select rigging blocks only according to the manufacturer's guidelines. Never exceed the rated load of the block. Remember that the angle formed between the load lines affects the block load. As the included angle decreases, the load on the rigging block increases.
- b) Never use rigging blocks that appear to be damaged until they are appropriately inspected and accepted as useable.
- c) The rigging block shall be fully engaged and in good working order before applying the full load.
- d) Avoid contact with sharp edges or obstructions that could damage the block.
- e) Do not side load the rigging block. The block sheave and fittings should always be in line with the load.
- f) Avoid shock loading.
- g) Avoid dragging load blocks on the ground or over an abrasive surface.
- h) Fittings attached to the load line should not contact the block sheaves.
- i) The rope should be in the sheave groove when loaded. The minimum D/d <sup>42</sup> ratio between sheave pitch and wire rope diameter is 6.

6) *Rigging Hooks*

**General.**—Rigging hooks are used as part of rigging tackle, such as sling assemblies, or with below-the-hook lifting devices. See section 6.10, "Overhead and Gantry Cranes," "Hooks," for load hooks on hoists or cranes. Many styles of rigging hooks are available. Some rigging hooks (e.g., grab hooks and sorting hooks) are designed to carry the load near the point as well as in the bowl or saddle of the hook. Rigging hooks shall be used within the limits specified by the manufacturer. Forged alloy steel hooks generally make the best rigging hooks.

Rigging hooks shall meet or exceed the requirements of ANSI/ASME B30.10, "Hooks."

**Design Factor.**—The rated load for a hook shall be equal to or exceed the rated load of the chain, wire rope, or sling to which it is attached.

**Marking and Tagging.**—The manufacturer's identification shall be forged or die-stamped on the hook.

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<sup>42</sup> Sheave pitch diameter to rope diameter ratio.

**Attachments.**—Throat latches shall be used, unless application makes using the latch impractical or unnecessary.

**Rigging Hook Inspection and Removal Criteria.**—Rigging hooks shall be visibly inspected at the frequency previously indicated. If any damage is found, the hook shall be removed from service. Inspect the following:

- a) Rigging hooks that are not permanently installed in a sling assembly shall be visually inspected for the following deficiencies before use:
  - i) Distortions, such as bending or twisting, exceeding 10 degrees from the plane of the unbent hook
  - ii) Increased throat opening exceeding 15 percent
  - iii) Wear exceeding 10 percent of the original dimension
  - iv) Cracks, severe nicks, or gouges
  - v) Damage, engagement, or malfunction of latch
- b) Rigging hooks shall be inspected as a part of the slings to which they are attached.
- c) The nondestructive testing of rigging hooks is not routinely required. Rigging hook nondestructive tests may be required by a critical-lift procedure.
- d) Welding on hooks, except by the hook manufacturer, is not allowed. Never repair, alter, rework, or reshape a hook by welding, heating, burning, or bending.

Repairs should be made only by the manufacturer or a qualified person. Replacement parts shall meet or exceed the manufacturer's original specifications.

**Operation.**—Operating practices and guidelines for using rigging hooks are as follows:

- a) Loads for rigging hooks shall be equal to or exceed the rated load of the chain, wire rope, or other suspension member to which it is attached. Where this is not feasible, special precautions shall be taken to ensure that the rated load limit of the hook is not exceeded.
- b) The safe working load (SWL) for a hook used in its intended manner shall be equal to or exceed the rated load of the chain, wire rope, or other suspension member to which it is attached.
- c) The designated SWL applies only when the load is applied in the bowl or saddle of the hook. Center the load in the base (bowl or saddle) of the hook.
- d) Avoid shock loading.
- e) Do not side load or back load the hook.
- f) Ensure that the load is not carried on the throat latch.

## 6.12 Shop Fabricated Lifting Devices and Rigging Hardware

All lifting devices and rigging hardware shall be designed with a 5:1 factor of safety and according to any applicable ANSI standard. *Reclamation Safety and Health Standards* require that any job-fabricated rigging hardware be designed by a professional engineer. All job-made or repaired wire rope slings and steel chains require marking and proof testing prior to use.

## 6.13 Below-the-Hook Lifting Devices

Below-the-hook lifters are defined by ASME B30.20, “Below-the-Hook Lifting Devices.” They are arranged in four different types of groups as follows:

*Group I: Structural and Mechanical Lifting Devices*

*Structural Lifter*—A lifter consisting of an assembly of rigid parts designed to hold and attach a load to a hoisting device.

*Mechanical Lifting Device*—A mechanism composed of two or more rigid parts that move with respect to each other for attaching a load to a hoisting device.

*Group II: Vacuum Lifting Device*

A below-the-hook lifting device using a holding force by means of vacuum.

*Group III: Magnet, Lifting, Close Proximity Operated*

A lifting magnet used in such a fashion that the operator manually positions the magnet on the load and manually guides the magnet and load during a lift.

*Group IV: Magnet, Lifting, Remotely Operated*

A lifting magnet that does not require the operator or other personnel to be in close proximity to the magnet or its load while the magnet is in use.

This section provides the requirements for Group I, structural and mechanical below-the-hook lifting devices. This type represents the majority of below-the-hook lifting devices found at power and pumping plants and include, but are not limited to, supporting lifting devices, indentation-type pressure lifting devices, friction-type pressure lifting devices, spreader bars, lifting jigs, lifting yokes, and load test fixtures. Structural and mechanical lifting devices are often one-of-a-kind designs. Slings and rigging hardware that may be components in a below-the-hook lifting device are covered in previous sections of this document.

Using vacuum and magnetic lifting devices is very limited at pumping plants and is not covered in this document.

### 6.13.1 Design

All specialized devices should be designed and certified for use by a engineer competent in the field and according to the provisions of ASME B30.20. In most cases, ANSI N14.6, which is similar to ASME B30.20, also will apply and may be invoked by the responsible engineer. Lifting devices designed for a specific operation should not be used for any other operation unless approved by a competent engineer.

Load-bearing components of a lifter shall be designed to withstand the stresses imposed by its rated load plus the weight of the lifter, with a minimum design factor of 3, based on the yield strength of the material and with stress ranges within ANSI/AWS D14.1, “Specification for

Welding of Industrial and Mill Cranes and Other Material Handling Equipment," standards. Welding shall also be according to requirements of this standard. Guards will be provided for all moving parts, and any wiring and electrical equipment shall comply with the requirements of NFPA 70, "National Electrical Code," Article 610, "Cranes and Hoists."

All existing, site-fabricated, below-the-hook lifting devices should be analyzed by a design engineer to verify that they conform to the required design factor.

### **6.13.2 Marking**

The rated capacity of each lifting device shall be marked on the main structure where it is visible and legible. If the lifting device comprises several items, each detachable from the assembly, each lifting device shall be marked with its rated capacity. At a minimum, a nameplate, name tag, or other permanent marker shall be affixed displaying the following data:

- 1) Manufacturer's name (contractor's name if fabricated onsite)
- 2) Lifting device weight (if over 100 pounds)
- 3) Serial number (if applicable)
- 4) Drawing number (if applicable)
- 5) Rated capacity

A rerated lifting device shall be relabeled with the new rated capacity.

### **6.13.3 Modifications**

Any modification or rerating of below-the-hook lifting devices requires documented analysis by a qualified engineer or the manufacturer of the lifting device. Any rerated or modified lifting device requires a new load test. A rerated lifting device also must be appropriately relabeled with the new rated load capacity.

### **6.13.4 Operations**

Below-the-hook lifting devices shall only be operated by qualified designated persons, trainees under direct supervision of a designated person, and/or maintenance and test personnel when necessary. The operator shall be familiar with and instructed in using the device.

- 1) The condition of the lifting device shall be observed before use and during operation. Any defects found shall be examined and, if it constitutes a hazard, repaired prior to any operation.
- 2) The lifting device shall be applied to the load according to established procedures.
- 3) The operator should not leave his position at the controls while a load is suspended unless specific precautions have been implemented.
- 4) The lifting device shall not be loaded in excess of its rated load (except for test loads) or be used for any application for which it is not designed.

- 5) Before lifting, the operator shall ensure that lifting device ropes or chains are not kinked and multiple-part lines are not interwoven.
- 6) Care should be taken to ensure that the load is correctly distributed for the lifting device being used.
- 7) The lifting device shall not be used for side pulls.
- 8) The lifting device, when not in use, should be stored in a dry, inside location.
- 9) Missing or defaced markings or tags shall be replaced.

### **6.13.5 Inspections**

**Initial Inspections.**—Before initial use, all new, modified, or repaired lifting devices shall be inspected by a designated person to ensure compliance with the provisions of ASME B30.20, “Below-the-Hook Lifting Devices.”

**Frequent Inspections.**—The user shall inspect for the following deficiencies on each shift or before use. In addition, visual observations should be conducted during regular service for any damage or evidence of malfunction that appears between regular inspections. Deficiencies shall be examined carefully to determine whether they constitute a hazard:

- 1) Structural deformation, cracks, or excessive wear on any part of the lifter
- 2) Loose or missing guards, fasteners, covers, stops, or nameplates
- 3) All functional operating mechanisms and automatic hold and release
- 4) Mechanisms for misadjustments that interfere with operations
- 5) All load-carrying portions of the device for deformation, cracks, and excessive wear

**Periodic Inspections.**—A complete inspection of lifting devices shall be performed by a qualified inspector at 12-month intervals for normal service, 6-month intervals for heavy service, and 3-month intervals for severe service. Fixtures not in use do not require periodic inspection, but the inspection must be performed before use. Any deficiencies shall be examined and a determination made as to whether they constitute a hazard. These inspections shall include the requirements of “Frequent Inspections,” noted above, and items such as the following, as applicable:

- 1) Loose bolts or fasteners.
- 2) Cracked or worn gears, pulleys, sheaves, sprockets, bearings, chains, belts, and welds.
- 3) Excessive wear of linkages and other mechanical parts.
- 4) Excessive wear at hoist-hooking points and load-support clevises or pins.
- 5) Marking as required by ASME B30.20.
- 6) External evidence of damage to structure, motors, and controls.
- 7) Lubricate bearings and bushings.
- 8) Check that all pivot points and level indicators are free to move. For rarely used lifting devices, apply a protective coating to areas prone to corrosion.
- 9) Clean and paint as required.

**Inspection Records.**—Make dated inspection reports and records for each periodic inspection and any time the lifting device requires adjustment or repair. The most recent inspection records shall be retained in an equipment maintenance file.

### 6.13.6 Repairs

Any deficiencies disclosed by the inspection shall be corrected before normal operation of the lifting device is resumed.

### 6.13.7 Testing

Keep dated reports of operational tests, rated load tests, and manufacturers' certification, as applicable, as long as the device is available for use.

Before initial use, load test and inspect all new, altered, modified, or repaired lifting devices. An operational test also should be performed. Rated load tests shall be done under the direction of a qualified person. A written report furnished by such person confirms the load rating of the lifter. The load rating should not be more than 80 percent of the maximum load sustained during the test. Test loads shall not be more than 110 percent of the rated load unless otherwise recommended by the manufacturer.

At the option of the organization, a manufacturer's certification may be used in lieu of a rated load test only if all the following criteria apply:

- 1) The lifter is manufactured by a reputable manufacturer that customarily manufactures structural and/or mechanical lift devices.
- 2) The lifter is a standard readymade item in the manufacturer's normal inventory. (One-of-a-kind items shall be load-tested.)
- 3) The manufacturer furnishes a written statement, signed and stamped by a registered professional engineer, certifying its structural and operational integrity and that it conforms to the specific requirements of ASME B30.20, "Below-The-Hook Lifting Devices."

### 6.13.8 Maintenance Files

The maintenance file is a compilation of various documents and records relating to operation, maintenance, inspection, testing evaluation, and repair of the equipment. The methods selected for establishing adequate information retention and retrieval shall be determined by the equipment custodian.

An electronic recordkeeping system may be used. If a computerized maintenance management system such as MAXIMO, is used and maintenance records are not retained in the crane file, the crane file should state where the electronic maintenance records are kept.

The crane maintenance file shall contain, as a minimum, the required current dated periodic inspection records and other documentation to provide the user with evidence of a safe and reliable maintenance program. Keep dated reports of operational tests and the rated load test as long as the device is available for use. Inspection records should be retained in a format and location that provides for ease in accessibility. Maintenance file information should provide a source for comparing present conditions with past conditions to determine whether existing conditions show a trending pattern of wear, deterioration, or other comparable factors that may compromise safe, continued use of the equipment. Length of record retention shall be determined by the equipment custodian's established maintenance program.

## **6.14 Elevators**

Information removed. See FIST 2-10, Maintenance, Inspection, and Testing of Electric and Hydraulic Elevators and section 7.0 of this document.

## 7.0 Cathodic Protection

Revised – Reference FIST 4-5, *Corrosion Protection*, and the tables above in the main document section.

## 8.0 Fire Systems

### 8.1 General

Periodic inspection, testing, and maintenance of plant fire protection systems are critical to ensuring a functional system that will provide a reasonable degree of protection for life and property. Hydroelectric power facilities include fire protection systems that are comprised of both mechanical and electrical equipment and systems. Pumps, piping, valves, sprinklers, and other appurtenant fixtures and equipment represent the mechanical portion of a plant's fire protection and suppression systems. These systems are required to have scheduled inspections, testing, and maintenance.<sup>43</sup> This chapter provides the minimum requirements for the routine inspection, testing, and maintenance of the mechanical portion of most common fire protection systems that protect hydroelectric facilities.

Historically, hydroelectric powerhouses have been constructed of reinforced concrete and masonry with limited amounts of furniture and combustible sources and, thus, generally are considered a low fire hazard structure. Still, fires at hydroelectric plants are not uncommon.<sup>44</sup> Fire hoses and extinguishers generally are used for protecting and suppressing structural fires. Specific fire hazards within hydroelectric plants are somewhat limited and usually can be defined into four areas: main power generators or pumps, oil storage and oil processing rooms, transformers, and paint and flammable liquid storage rooms. These higher-risk fire areas most often are designed with specific, separate fire protection and suppression systems.

Inspection, testing, and maintenance of fire protection systems and equipment should be scheduled and documented through the facilities maintenance management program, such as Reclamation's MAXIMO program. Original records shall be maintained for the life of the system. Subsequent records shall be retained for a minimum period of 1 year after the next inspection, test, or maintenance.

Each facility must have a written, detailed, and effective fire prevention plan in place.<sup>45</sup> Since many facilities do not have their own trained fire fighting brigades but rely on the services of community fire departments services, close coordination and cooperation with local fire fighting departments is essential.

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<sup>43</sup> NFPA 851, Recommended Practice for Fire Protection for Hydroelectric Generating Plants, 2000, 851 2-4.1.2; Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, section 10.3.2.

<sup>44</sup> CO<sub>2</sub> Fire Protection Study for Hydrogenerators – Report of Findings, Reclamation, 1984.

<sup>45</sup> NFPA 851, Recommended Practice for Fire Protection for Hydroelectric Generating Plants, 2000, 851 2-4.1.2; Reclamation Safety and Health Standards, section 10.1.1.

## 8.2 Carbon Dioxide Fire Suppression Systems

Special fire protection systems, such as carbon dioxide normally are used to protect generators and motors. In older plants, automatic CO<sub>2</sub> fire suppression systems were installed in oil storage and processing rooms. NFPA 12, *Standard on Carbon Dioxide Extinguishing Systems*, 2005, no longer allows CO<sub>2</sub> use in normally occupied space in new installations and highly regulates entrance in existing installations.<sup>46</sup> Due to the hazards associated with using CO<sub>2</sub>, using automatic CO<sub>2</sub> fire suppression systems in oil storage and oil processing rooms, transformer vaults, and other locations that occasionally are visited by personnel is not recommended. Reclamation recommends removing existing active systems in these locations.<sup>47</sup>

Requirements and instructions for inspection, testing and maintenance of CO<sub>2</sub> fire suppression systems can be found in FIST Volume 5-12, *CO<sub>2</sub> System Operation and Maintenance*, and other pertinent referenced documentation. Users should refer to this document for detailed inspection, testing, and maintenance guidelines. Refer to table 6 of this document and the manufacturer's instructions for a summary of testing, maintenance, training, and drill requirements.

## 8.3 Fire Suppression Systems for Transformers

Although fires of this type are rare, powerplant oil-filled transformers pose a particularly acute fire risk to personnel and property due to the potentially catastrophic size and temperatures involved with this type of fire. Subsequent environmental risks due to oil spillage and air pollution also increase liability. Water deluge and mist systems (water spray fixed systems) normally are provided for outdoor oil-filled transformers. Oil-filled transformers that are installed inside of a facility must be installed and protected according to the requirements of NFPA 70, *National Electric Code*, Article 450 and NFPA 851, *Recommended Practice for Fire Protection for Hydroelectric Generating Plants*. For large capacity transformers, this usually requires installation within a fire rated vault.

Requirements and instructions for inspection, testing, and maintenance of transformer fire protection systems can be found in FIST Volume 3-32, *Transformer Fire Protection*, and other pertinent referenced documentation. Users should refer to this document for detailed inspection, testing, and maintenance guidelines.

## 8.4 Fire Suppression Systems for Paint and Oil Storage and Transfer Rooms

Oil storage and processing rooms have a potentially high hazard for fire because they contain such large quantities of transformer and lubricating oil. Because of the intense heat and large

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<sup>46</sup> NFPA 12 Standard on Carbon Dioxide Extinguishing Systems 2005, section 4.1.1, 4.1.4.

<sup>47</sup> FIST Volume 5-12, CO<sub>2</sub> System Operation and Maintenance, section 6.

amount of fuel associated with an oil room fire, water deluge or water mist systems are recommended over traditional wet pipe sprinkler systems. Wet pipe sprinkler systems or water mist fire protection systems may be found in some locations but are less common. Normally, with deluge systems, heat sensing fire detectors initiate flow by actuation of an electrically actuated pressure valve (deluge valve).

Determine the type of system and refer to the appropriate table in this document and the manufacturer's instructions for a summary of inspection, testing, and maintenance requirements.

## **8.5 Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing System**

Clean agent fire suppression systems are often found in some control rooms, computer rooms, and within certain control cabinets. They do not include fire extinguishing systems that use carbon dioxide or water. Originally, Halon was the standard extinguishing agent used in this type of system. Halon was phased out after restrictions were placed on its use under the Montreal Protocol of September 16, 1987, as amended. Today, there is a number of different clean agents that have taken the place of Halon. Existing quantities of Halon are closely regulated and monitored.

Different clean agents produce differing degrees of hazardous atmosphere when discharged. Thus when used, suitable safeguards are required; and unnecessary exposure to these agents shall be avoided. As with carbon dioxide suppression systems, safeguards shall be provided to prevent entry into areas after discharge, and safety items such as personnel training, warning signs, pre- and post- discharge alarms, self-contained breathing apparatus, evacuation plans, and fire drills shall be used.

Clean agent systems are usually pre-engineered. It is recommended that the design, installation, service, and maintenance of clean agent systems be performed by those knowledgeable and trained in that area of technology.

Refer to table 7 of this document and the manufacturer's instructions for a summary of testing, maintenance, and training and drill requirements.

## **8.6 Life Safety Code**

NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code*, addresses life safety from fire. Although normally associated with matters of egress, it also lays out requirements for modifications, modernization, or renovation of existing facilities and addresses other fire prevention considerations essential to life safety. This code should be reviewed for compliance prior to any building modifications, modernization or renovations, changes in occupancy, hazard, water supply storage commodity or arrangement, or other condition that might affect the adequacy of the installed systems.

NFPA 851, “Recommended Practice for Fire Protection for Hydroelectric Generating Plants,” classifies hydroelectric generating plants as follows:

- 1) General areas are considered as special purpose industrial occupancies.
- 2) General office structures should be considered as business occupancies.
- 3) Open and underground structures such as tunnels should be considered as occupancies in special structures.
- 4) Warehouses should be considered as storage occupancies.

The need for egress, fire detection and suppression systems, sprinkler systems, stairwell ventilation requirements, fire barriers and doors, signage, etc. are all partially determined by this code.

Existing life safety features and equipment such as sprinklers, fire alarm systems, standpipes, etc. shall be periodically tested and maintained according to this and other NFPA codes.

## 8.7 References and Standards

The following standards and references apply to fire protection systems predominantly found in hydroelectric plants:

- 1) NFPA 25, “Standard for the Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems”
- 2) NFPA 101, “Life Safety Code”
- 3) NFPA 72, “National Fire Alarm Code”
- 4) NFPA 851, “Recommended Practice for Fire Protection for Hydroelectric Generating Plants”
- 5) NFPA 110, “Standard for Emergency and Standby Power Systems”
- 6) NFPA 13, “Standard for Installation of Sprinkler Systems”
- 7) NFPA 115 “Standard for Water Spray Fixed Systems for Fire Protection”
- 8) NFPA 750, “Standard on Water Mist Fire Protection Systems”
- 9) NFPA 20, “Standard for Installation of Stationary Pumps for Fire Protection”
- 10) NFPA 22, “Standard for Water Tanks for Private Fire Protection”
- 11) NFPA 1962, “Standard for the Care, Use, and Service Testing of Fire Hose Including Couplings and Nozzles”
- 12) NFPA 10, “Portable Fire Extinguishers”
- 13) NFPA 12, “Carbon Dioxide Extinguishing Systems”
- 14) NFPA 2001, “Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems”
- 15) NFPA 70, “National Electric Code”
- 16) FIST 4-1B, *Maintenance Scheduling for Electrical Equipment*
- 17) FIST 5-12, *CO<sub>2</sub> System Operation and Maintenance*
- 18) FIST 3-32, *Transformer Fire Protection*
- 19) FIST 5-2, *Firefighting and Fire Prevention*
- 20) Power Equipment Bulletin 28, *Engine Generator Maintenance, Inspection and Testing*
- 21) *CO<sub>2</sub> Fire Protection Study for Hydrogenerators – Report of Findings, Reclamation, 1984*
- 22) *Reclamation Safety and Health Standards*, section 10, “Fire Prevention and Protection”

## 8.8 Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Sprinkler Systems

Component	Test or Maintenance	Frequency	Reference
Sprinklers	Inspection	Annually (including spares)	NFPA 25 5.2.1
	Test – sprinklers	At 50 years and every 10 years thereafter or replace	NFPA 25 5.3.1.1.1; 5.3.1.1.2; 5.3.1.1.3
	Test – sprinklers, fast response	At 20 years and every 10 years thereafter or replace	RSHS, table 10-1
	Test – sprinklers, extra-high temperature	5 years	
Pipes, Fittings, and Hangers	Test – sprinklers, dry	Every 10 years	
	Inspection	Annually	NFPA 25 5.2.2; 5.2.3
Gauges	Inspection	Weekly/monthly (dry, preaction, and deluge systems) Monthly (wet pipe system)	NFPA 25 5.2.4.2 and 5.2.4.3 NFPA 25 5.2.4.1
	Test – Replace or calibrate	5 years	NFPA 25 5.3.2
Valves	Inspection	Weekly/monthly (control valves)	NFPA 25, table 12.1 RSHS, table 10-1
	Replace or calibrate	5 years	NFPA 25-5.3.1.1.3
	Maintenance	Annually or as needed	NFPA 25, table 12.1
Alarm Devices	Inspect	Quarterly	NFPA 25-5.2.6
	Test	Quarterly- pressure/water motor gong type Semiannually vane type	NFPA 25-5.3.3
Fire Department Connections	Inspection	Quarterly	NFPA 25, table 12.1
Main drain	Test	Annually	NFPA 25, table 12.1
Low Point Drains-Dry Pipe	Maintenance	Annually prior to freezing	NFPA 25-12.4.4.3.3

Sprinkler Obstructions	Maintenance	5 years or as needed	NFPA 25-5.2.1.2
Buildings	Inspection	Annually, prior to freezing	NFPA 25-5.2.5

### **8.8.1 Sprinklers**

Inspect from the floor level for signs of leakage, corrosion, paint, physical damage, and orientation.

Replace if any of these factors are noted. Spares shall be of the proper type and number and include a sprinkler wrench.

Remove any unacceptable obstructions to the spray patterns.

### **8.8.2 Pipe and Fittings**

Inspect from the floor level for signs of leakage, corrosion, physical damage and misalignment. Inspect for pipes that may have objects resting or hanging from it. Remove these sources of external load.

The sprinkler piping inspection should include inspection of pipe hangers and seismic braces. Inspect for damaged or loose hangers and bracing.

### **8.8.3 Gauges**

The life expectancy of a gauge is 10 to 15 years. Gauges that have greater than 3-percent error over full scale should be recalibrated or replaced.

### **8.8.4 Alarm Devices**

Water-flow devices of the mechanical water motor gong and pressure switch type shall be inspected and tested quarterly. Inspect for physical damage. Water-flow devices of the vane-type shall be tested semiannually. On wet pipe systems, the inspector's test connection shall be used to create a flow condition unless other circumstances such as freeze conditions exist. In this instance, the bypass connection can be used.

## 8.8.5 Buildings

Buildings with wet pipe sprinkler systems shall be inspected annually prior to freezing weather. Check all openings including windows, doors, skylights, ventilators, attics, and spaces under buildings where water-filled sprinkler piping could be exposed to freezing temperatures and verify that adequate heat is available. Verify the freezing point of the antifreeze solution in piping that is filled with this solution.

## 8.9 Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Fire Pumps

Unless connected to a municipal fire water system, most powerplants rely on fire pumps to supply pressurized water for fire suppression. Water typically is taken from the tail race through dedicated water supply piping. Generally, the fire water pumps are electric motor driven.

Component	Test or Maintenance	Frequency	Reference
Fire Pump System	Inspection	Weekly	NFPA 25-8.2.(2)
Pump Operation	Test – no flow	Weekly	NFPA 25-8.3.1
	Test – with flow	Annually	NFPA 25-8.3.3.1; RSHS, table 10-1
Pump House, Ventilation and Heating Louvers	Inspection	Weekly	NFPA 25-8.2.2(1)
Motor, Controller, Electrical and Mechanical Systems, Diesel Engine,	Maintenance	Annually	NFPA 25-8.5

Test results shall be recorded and retained.

Each plant shall establish a preventive maintenance program for each fire pump assembly. This program shall incorporate manufacturer's recommendations that are included in the operation and maintenance manual. Where manufacturer's recommendations are not available, refer to table 8.5.3 of NFPA 25, "Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection System." This table provides minimum inspection, testing, and maintenance requirements.

Maintenance shall be performed immediately after testing.

## **8.10 Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water Spray, Fixed Systems**

As previously mentioned, water spray, fixed systems are routinely found in powerplants where they are routinely used as oil storage room and transformer deluge systems. These systems have fixed nozzles in lieu of sprinkler style heads. Design requirements for this type of system can be found in NFPA 15, “Standard for Water Spray Fixed Systems for Fire Protection.”

Component	Test or Maintenance	Frequency	Reference
Valves – Backflow Preventers, Control, Alarm, Deluge, Check, Pressure Reducing	Inspection	See section 8.15, table 10	See section 8.15, table 10
	Test	See section 8.15, table 10	See section 8.15, table 10
	Maintenance	See section 8.15, table 10	See section 8.15, table 10
Fire Pump – Electric Motor, Drive, etc.	Inspection	See section 8.9, table 4	See section 8.9, table 4
	Test	See section 8.9, table 4	See section 8.9, table 4
	Maintenance	See section 8.9, table 4	See section 8.9, table 4
Tanks- Pressure, Gravity Suction	Inspection	Weekly/monthly/annually	See NFPA 25, chapter 9
	Test	5 years	See NFPA 25, chapter 9
	Maintenance	Annually	See NFPA 25, chapter 9
Water Supply Systems	Inspection	Weekly/annually	RSHS, table 10-1; NFPA-25 10.2.6.1-2
	Test (flow)	Annually	RSHS, table 10-1; NFPA 25-7.3.2
Nozzles	Inspection	Monthly	NFPA 25-10.2.1-2; 10.2.5
	Test	Annually	NFPA 25-10.2.1.6; 10.3
Detection Systems	Inspection, test, maintenance		FIST 4-1B; NFPA 72
Drainage	Inspection	Quarterly	NFPA 25-10.2.8
System Piping, Fittings, Hangers, Supports	Inspection	Quarterly	NFPA 25-10.2.4.1-2; 10.2.1.1-2; 10.6.1-2
Strainers	Inspection	Manufacturer instruction	NFPA 25-10.2.7

	Test	Annually	NFPA 25-10.2.7; 10.2.1.7
	Maintenance	Annually 5 years (baskets/ screen)	NFPA 25-10.2.7; 10.2.1.7 NFPA 25-10.2.1.8
Flushing	Test	Annually	NFPA 25-10.2.1.3
Main Drain	Test	Quarterly/Annually	NFPA 25-12.2.6; 12.2.6.1
Water Spray System	Maintenance	Annually	NFPA 25-10.1.4
	Test	Annually	NFPA 25-10.3
Manual Release	Test	Annually	NFPA 25-10.3.6
Water Flow Alarm	Test	Quarterly	NFPA 25, chapter 5

Refer to NFPA 25, chapter 10.4, for minimum inspection, testing, and maintenance requirements for ultra-high-speed water spray systems.

## 8.11 Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Private Hydrants and Fire Service Mains

Component	Test or Maintenance	Frequency	Reference
Hose Houses	Inspection	Quarterly	NFPA 25-7.2.2.7
	Maintenance	Annually	NFPA 25-7.4.5
Hydrants (Wet and Dry Barrel, Wall)	Inspection	Semiannually/each operation	RSHS, table 10-1; NFPA 25-7.2.2.4-5
	Maintenance	Annually	NFPA 25-7.4.3
	Test (flow)	Flow annually	RSHS, table 10-1; NFPA 25-7.3.2
Monitor Nozzles	Inspection	Semiannually	NFPA 25-7.2.2.6
	Maintenance	Annually	NFPA 25-7.4.4
	Test	Flow annually	NFPA 25-7.3.3
Piping (Exposed and Underground)	Inspection <sup>1</sup>	Annually	NFPA 7.2.2.1-2
	Test (flow)	5 years	NFPA 7.3.1
Mainline Strainers	Maintenance	Annually/each operation	NFPA 25-7.4.2

Inspection	Annually/each operation	NFPA 25 7.2.2.3
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<sup>1</sup> Underground piping cannot effectively be inspected on a routine basis; thus, flow tests may be beneficial.

*Reclamation Safety and Health Standards*, section 10, “Fire Prevention and Protection,” table 10-1, requires a semiannual inspection where NFPA’s requirement for inspections of dry hydrants is annually.

Flow tests on underground and exposed piping are made at flows similar to those expected in an actual fire. Friction loss comparisons between those seen during the actual test and those calculated for that particular pipe with consideration of age should be made.

Refer to NFPA 25, chapter 9 for minimum inspection testing and maintenance requirements for water storage tanks.

## 8.12 Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Standpipe and Hose Systems

A standpipe system is the piping, valves, hose connections, and equipment in a plant, with one end connected to a hose or nozzle and the other end to a water supply system, with the explicit purpose of extinguishing a fire. There are both wet and dry standpipe systems depending whether the system is normally “dry” or contains water at all times.

The National Fire Protection Association sets codes and standards for the design, maintenance, inspection, and testing of these systems as it does for all fire protection systems.

Component	Test or Maintenance	Frequency	Reference
Valves (All Types)	Maintenance	Annually/as needed	NFPA, table 12.1
Valves (Pressure Control)	Inspection	Weekly/monthly	NFPA, table 12.1
	Test	5 years	NFPA, table 12.1
Valves (Pressure Reducing)	Test	5 years	NFPA, table 12.1
Valves (Pressure Regulating)	Inspection	Quarterly	NFPA, table 12.1
Piping	Inspection	Quarterly	NFPA 25-6.2.1
Hose	Inspection	Monthly	RSHS, table 10-1; NFPA 1962

	Test (occupant use hose)	5 years/3 years thereafter	RSHS, table 10-1; NFPA 1962-4.3.2
	Test (attack, supply and forestry hose)	Annually	NFPA 1962 4.1.2
Hose (Connections)	Inspection	Quarterly	NFPA, table 12.1
	Maintenance	Annually/as needed	NFPA 6.2.2
Hose (Storage Device)	Inspection	Annually	NFPA 1962
	Test	Annually	NFPA 1962
Hose (Nozzle)	Inspection, test	Annually	NFPA 1962, 6.1.2
Cabinet	Inspection	Annually	NFPA 1962
Alarm Device	Test	Quarterly	NFPA, table 12.1
Hydrostatic Test	Test	5 years	RSHS, table 10-1; NFPA 25-6.3.2
Flow Test	Test	5 years	NFPA 25-6.3.1
Main Drain Test	Test	Annually	NFPA, table 12.1

The requirements for maintenance, inspection, and testing of fire hose, nozzles, and couplings can be found in NFPA 1962, “Inspection, Care, and Use of Fire Hose, Couplings, and Nozzles and the Service Testing of Fire Hose.”

*Reclamation Safety and Health Standards* provide inspection requirements for fire hose stations in section 10, “Fire Prevention and Protection,” table 10-1. This inspection criteria is more stringent in some areas than NFPA requirements, requiring for example, a monthly inspection instead of NFPA’s requirement for annual inspections for fire hose stations.

Accurate hose records are required on each hose. Each occupant use hose shall be tagged with information which includes the manufacturer’s name, part numbers, date put in service, date of each service test, who performed the test/inspection, repair as well as other pertinent information. Electronic bar code files are permitted in lieu of tags. Attack and supply hoses require similar requirements.

After each use and before being placed back in service, the hose, connections, and nozzle shall be inspected, cleaned, and dried.

Refer to NFPA 1962, “Inspection, Care, and Use of Fire Hose, Couplings, and Nozzles and the Service Testing of Fire Hose,” for service test procedures and details and other information on hoses and attachments.

## 8.13 Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Carbon Dioxide Systems

Component	Test or Maintenance	Frequency	Reference
CO <sub>2</sub> System	Inspection	Monthly	NFPA 12-4.8.1; RSHS, table 10-1
	Functional tests	Annually	NFPA 12-4.8.3.2; RSHS, table 10-1
	Discharge concentration test	After initial installation, uprate or major modification of the CO <sub>2</sub> system; when maintenance indicates their advisability	NFPA 12-4.4.3.3.4; NFPA 12-4.8.3.2.2

High-Pressure Cylinders	Weigh	Semiannually	NFPA 12-4.8.3.4.1
	Hydrostatic test	5 years; 12 years if continually in service and undischarged	NFPA 12-4.6.5.1
Low-Pressure Systems	Inspection – pressure gauges	Weekly	NFPA 12-4.8.3.5.1
	Calibration – pressure gauges	Annually	Reclamation Practice
Control System Including Initiation Devices, Batteries, etc.	Inspection, test, and maintenance	Per NFPA 72 requirements	NFPA 12-4.8.3.6; Refer to FIST 4-1b
Flexible Hoses	Pressure test	5 years	NFPA 12-4.8.2.3
Routing Valves	Manual operation	Annually or after any maintenance	NFPA 12-4.8.3.2; Reclamation Practice
Training	O&M personnel	Annually	Reclamation Practice
Drills	Fire prevention plan	Annually	Reclamation Practice

Refer to FIST Volume 5-12, *CO<sub>2</sub> System Operation and Maintenance*, for additional details and requirements.

The manufacturer's maintenance and test procedure should be followed for testing and maintenance of the system. Manufacturer's instructions may have test requirements at more frequent intervals.

Prior to any testing or maintenance on a CO<sub>2</sub> system, proper safety procedures shall be reviewed. Lock out procedures shall be followed to prevent accidental discharge of the system. Initial and delayed discharge isolation valves should be closed and locked out prior to testing. It is also prudent to disconnect the firing heads from the high-pressure initial and delayed discharge control bottles.

Maintenance and inspection reports are required to be maintained and filed.

All plant personnel who are involved with inspection, testing, and maintenance of CO<sub>2</sub> fire suppression systems should be thoroughly trained on the operation and maintenance of the system.

## 8.14 Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing

Component	Test or Maintenance	Frequency	Reference
Clean Agent Systems	Inspection and tests	Annually	NFPA 2001 6.1.1
	Mechanical inspection Flow and pressure test Enclosure inspection test Electrical inspection Electrical functional tests Control panel power source test	After initial installation, uprate or major modification of the CO <sub>2</sub> system	NFPA 2001
Containers and Cylinders	Agent quantity and pressure	Semiannually	NFPA 2001 6.1.3
	Hydrostatic test	5 years; If continually in service and undischarged, visual inspection every 5 years	NFPA 2001 6.2.1, 6.2.2
Hoses	Test	5 years	NFPA 2001 6.3.2.1
Enclosure	Inspection	Annually	NFPA 2001 6.4
Training	O&M personnel	Annually	Reclamation Practice; NFPA 2001 6.6
Drills	Fire Prevention Plan	Annually	Reclamation Practice

The manufacturer's maintenance and test procedure should be followed for testing and maintenance of the system. Manufacturer's instructions may have test requirements at more frequent intervals. Agent discharge tests are not required.

Maintenance and inspection reports are required to be maintained and filed. Container and cylinder tests require written report and tagging of cylinders.

For the most part, halocarbon clean agents have different and often stricter regulations than inert gas clean agents, especially with regard to collection and disposal. Refer to NFPA 2001 for specific instructions.

Clean agent extinguishing systems shall be maintained in full operating condition at all times. Any problems or impairments or enclosure penetrations shall be timely corrected.

Safe procedures shall be used during all work on the clean agent extinguishing system, including the handling and recharging of clean agent containers. Personnel working in a protected enclosure shall have specific training on clean agent safety issues.

Inspection, test, and operation and maintenance personnel that are assigned these tasks with clean agent extinguishing systems shall be thoroughly trained.

## **8.15 Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Fire System Valves and Components**

Component	Test or Maintenance	Frequency	Reference
Backflow Prevention	Inspection (non-supervised/ supervised, locked)	Weekly/monthly	NFPA 25-12.6.1
	Test	Annually	NFPA 25-12.6.2
	Maintenance		NFPA 25-12.6.3.1
Check Valves	Inspection (interior)	5 years	NFPA 25-12.4.2.1

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Control Valves	Inspection	Weekly/monthly (if with locks or tamper switches)	NFPA 25-12.3.2.1
	Test	Annually	NFPA 25-12.3.3.1
	Maintenance	Annually	NFPA 25-12.3.4
Deluge/Preaction Valves	Inspection	Enclosure, gauges- weekly (daily in cold weather) Monthly-exterior Annually/5 years – interior 5 years – strainers, filters, orifices	NFPA 25-12.4.3.1.3  NFPA 25-12.4.3.1.6 NFPA 25-12.4.3.1.7  NFPA 25-12.4.3.1.8
Deluge/Preaction Valves (continued)	Test	Quarterly – priming, air pressure Annually – flow	NFPA 25-12.4.3.2.1, 10  NFPA 25-12.4.3.2.2
Alarm Valves	Maintenance	Annually	NFPA 25-12.4.3.3.2
Water-Flow Alarm	Test	Quarterly	NFPA 25-12.2.7
Supervisory Switches	Test	Semiannually	NFPA 25-12.3.3.5.1; NFPA 72
Pressure Reducing/Regulating Valves			
Dry Pipe Valves/Quick Opening Devices	Inspection	Daily/weekly (cold weather) – enclosure Monthly – exterior Annually – interior 5 years – strainers, filters, orifices	NFPA 25-12.4.4.1.1  NFPA 25-12.4.4.1.4 NFPA 25-12.4.4.1.5 NFPA 25-12.4.4.1.6
Main Drain Test	Test	Annually/quarterly	NFPA 25, table 12.3.3.4; 12.2.6

## 9.0 Powerplant Heating and Ventilating Systems

Revised – Reference FIST 2-6, *Maintenance of Auxiliary Mechanical Equipment*, and the tables above in the main document section.

## 10.0 Mechanical Drawings

Revised – Section deleted. See the Information Management Handbook.

## 11.0 Engine Generators

Revised – Reference FIST 2-6, *Maintenance of Auxiliary Mechanical Equipment*, and the tables above in the main document section.