

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE,
Riverton, Wyo., November 21, 1967.

Mr. G. W. DAVISON,
President, Cottonwood Bench Improvement Association,
Riverton, Wyo.

DEAR MR. DAVISON: A check of the standard soil survey of the Cottonwood Bench made by the Soil Conservation Service in 1962 and 1963 shows approximately five hundred and forty two acres of irrigated land with a saline high water table.

About five hundred and twenty five of these presently wet and saline acres are of soil types that can be successfully drained. Approximately four hundred and twenty acres are mapped as the Apron sandy loam, imperfectly drained, saline phase and one hundred and three acres as the Trook sandy loam, saline phase. Both of these soil types are underlain with permeable gravels at depths ranging from two to four feet. Drainage of these soils is feasible and reclamation usually a relatively simple matter.

About forty acres of the wet area is contained in shallow ponds or potholes which are not feasible to drain.

Sincerely,

ROBERT E. HEWARD,
Work Unit Conservationist.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION AND CONSERVATION SERVICE,
Riverton, Wyo., October 9, 1967.

Mr. G. W. DAVISON,
Route 1, Riverton, Wyo.

DEAR MR. DAVISON: You recently inquired about the status of the Third Division lands, in regards to their being eligible for cost-shares under the Agricultural Conservation Program. This land at present belongs to the United States Government.

Crop land, owned by the United States, or a Cooperation wholly owned by it, is eligible for cost-shares, *only* if a "private person" is farming it. A private person excludes State or Federal Agencies.

As you realize, since the United States Government purchased back the lands in Third Division, they have in turn leased this land to private individuals for one year at a time. These leases have been renewed yearly since the ground was repurchased. Since the government gives only one year leases to private individuals, the individuals are reluctant to spend their own funds carrying out needed conservation work on these units. This is particularly true in regards to