

ROAD INVENTORY DETERMINATION OF AN IMPROVED ROAD

IDAHO CODE, SECTION 40-110

“Improved highway” means a graded and drained earth traveled way or better, to include one graded and graveled or with paved surface, and a graded and drained earth highway means a traveled way of natural earth, aligned and graded to permit reasonably convenient use by motor vehicles, and drained by a longitudinal and transverse system, natural or artificial, sufficiently to prevent serious impairment of the highway by surface water.

NOTE: The following examples are not intended to suggest specific standards to which roads should be built. They merely represent various kind and degrees of road surface drainage generally encountered throughout Idaho.

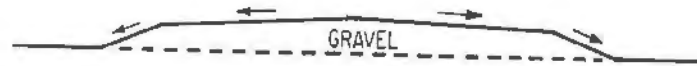
ACCEPTABLE



Where right of way is available, flatter slopes combine a safety feature with satisfactory drainage.



Restricted right of way may require steeper, less safe slopes to achieve proper drainage.

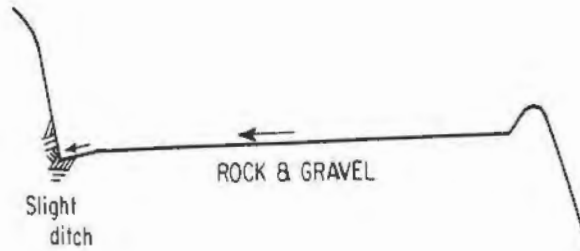


Flat sections in good gravel must be crowned to insure drainage to the outside.

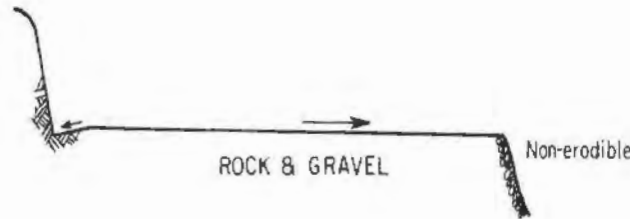


This profile depicts a road surface with a definite crown and minimal side-ditching. Drainage may be barely adequate.

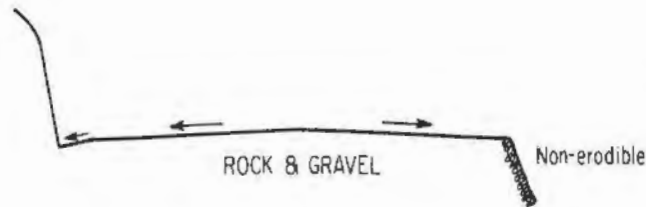
ACCEPTABLE



Entire traveled surface is sloped to a shallow ditch at the toe of the hill. In extremely difficult conditions involving essentially solid rock, ditching is not mandatory.



When material is non-erodible, or erosion is controlled, drainage can be accomplished by sloping away from the hillside. Consideration should be given to hazards in this type of drainage where surface may become slick.



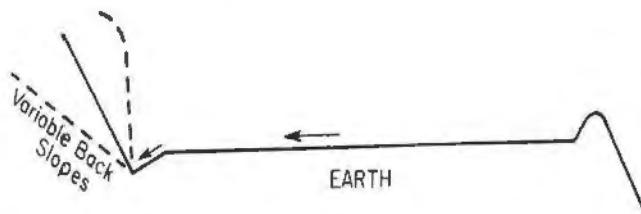
When erosion is controlled, a normal crown may be appropriate.

ACCEPTABLE

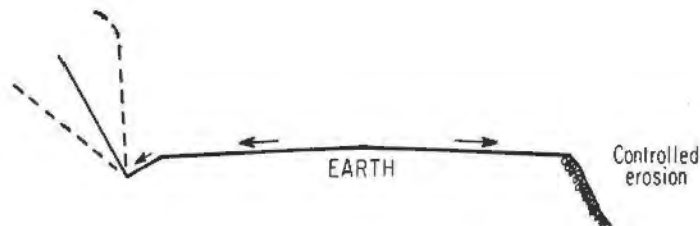


Protection against erosion in this fill section is provided by soil curbs and drain pipes.

DRAINAGE IN HILLSIDE SECTIONS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS



Entire traveled surface is sloped to the ditch at the toe of the hill.



When erosion is controlled, a normal crown may be appropriate.

UNACCEPTABLE

NOTE: The following examples are not intended to portray all kinds of unimproved roads. They are, however, considered to be fairly representative of various types of unimproved roads encountered throughout Idaho.



Concave surface prevents proper drainage. Limited corrective measures could change classification to acceptable.



Inadequate maintenance has allowed drainage features to disappear. Side ditches, culverts and crowning are needed.

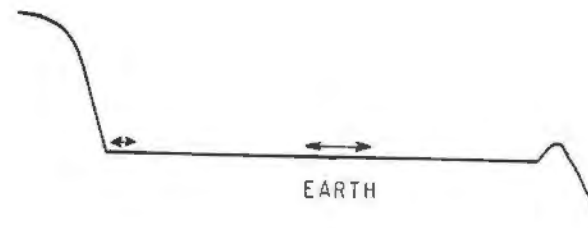


Repeated flat-blade maintenance has created a virtual canal.

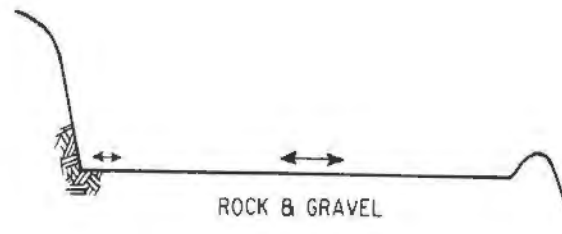
UNACCEPTABLE



Flat sections in good gravel must be crowned for adequate drainage to the outside.



Hillside section in earth must have proper slope and ditch at the toe of the hill, or a normal crown when erosion is controlled to provide adequate drainage.



Hillside section in rock and gravel must have a proper slope either to the toe of the hill or to the outside, or, have a normal crown. If the slope is to the toe of the hill, ditching is necessary unless material is essentially solid rock. If the slope is to the outside, or a normal crown is used, ditching is required and erosion on the outside must be controlled.

NOTE: Best roadway drainage normally removes water from the roadway in the shortest practical distance.

Roadway surfacing material has no bearing in determining whether or not the highway is "improved"

Proper cross-drainage is also required to satisfy the definition of an improved highway