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**TRB** TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

# TRB Webinar: Balanced Mix Design for Climate-Resilient Unpaved Roads

*November 4, 2024*

*3:00 – 4:30 PM*



# PDH Certification Information

1.5 Professional Development Hours (PDH) – see follow-up email

You must attend the entire webinar.

Questions? Contact Andie Pitchford at [TRBwebinar@nas.edu](mailto:TRBwebinar@nas.edu)

*The Transportation Research Board has met the standards and requirements of the Registered Continuing Education Program. Credit earned on completion of this program will be reported to RCEP at RCEP.net. A certificate of completion will be issued to each participant. As such, it does not include content that may be deemed or construed to be an approval or endorsement by the RCEP.*



# Purpose Statement

This webinar will present tools to help understand expected performances from wearing course materials on unpaved roads, how to blend different gravel sources to optimize unpaved road performance, and to select soil stabilization and dust control treatments that will produce a durable and climate resilient low-volume road driving surface.

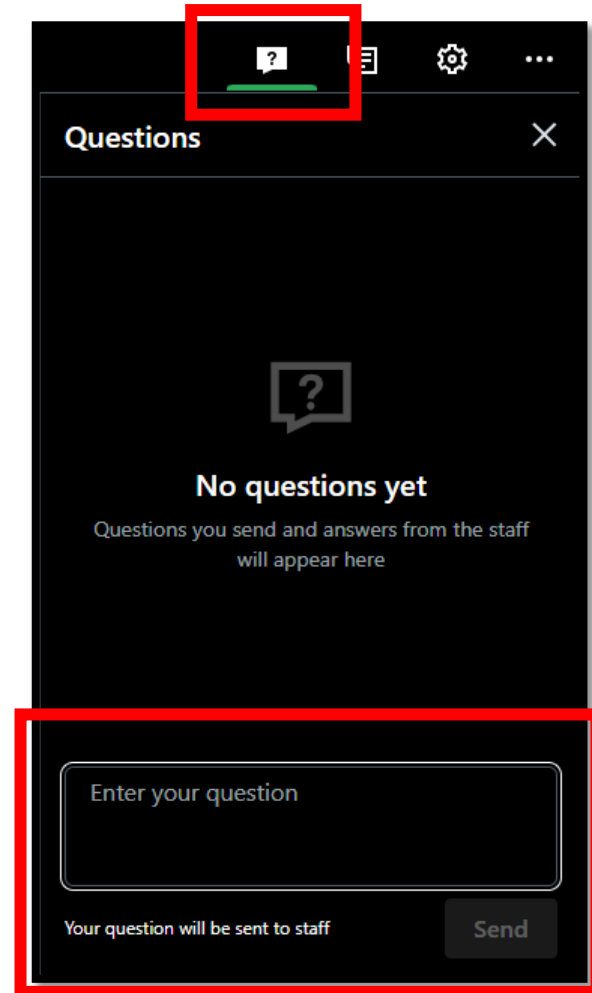
# Learning Objectives

At the end of this webinar, you will be able to:

1. Select unpaved road materials and understand likely performance
2. Optimize unpaved road performance by blending two or more materials following a balanced mix design approach
3. Select the most appropriate chemical treatment for a given material and set of road conditions

# Questions and Answers

- Please type your questions into your webinar control panel
- We will read your questions out loud, and answer as many as time allows



# Today's Presenters



David Jones, PhD  
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*University of California, Davis*



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[sjlouw@ucdavis.edu](mailto:sjlouw@ucdavis.edu)  
*University of California, Davis*



Gordon R. Keller, PE, GE  
[gordonrkeller@gmail.com](mailto:gordonrkeller@gmail.com)  
*Genesee Geotechnical*

# BALANCED MIX DESIGN FOR CLIMATE-RESILIENT UNPAVED ROADS

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**David Jones and Stephanus Louw**

*University of California Pavement Research Center, Davis, California*

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**TRB Workshop: Low Volume Roads Committee (AKD30)**

**November 4, 2024**

**WARNING**

GRAVEL ROADS



SURFACE CONDITIONS  
CHANGE OFTEN

**DRIVE CAREFULLY**



# Outline

---

- Introduction
- Understanding unpaved road materials
- Balanced mix design for unpaved roads
- Blending tool
- Chemical treatment selection tool
- Conclusions





# Introduction

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- Unpaved roads
  - Economically important
  - Safety, sustainability, resilience, and management issues
    - Problems exceed funding to fix them
  - Often emergency evacuation routes
  - Need to design for future climate, not past
  - Lost art of unpaved road engineering
    - “Paved road aggregate base is ok” (It’s NOT!)



# Introduction

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- Materials are selected to optimize all-weather performance
  - Good, year-round ride quality with minimal maintenance
  - No dust when dry
  - Passable when wet
  - Resilient during intense storms
- Numerous guides and specifications available worldwide
  - Performance-related are the most useful, but not common
- Performance dependent on:
  - Particle size distribution (grading)
  - Plasticity (clay content)
  - Strength and thickness (bearing capacity)
  - Construction, shape/drainage, and maintenance
- Performance can be improved through mechanical stabilization and/or chemical treatments
  - Chemical treatments are best for “keeping good roads good”
- Primary goal: safe; cost-effective to manage & maintain

# Introduction

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## ■ Considerations

- Roads
- Drainage
- River crossings and approaches
- Slopes

## ■ Improvement and preservation options:

- Upgrade to paved standard
- Rehabilitate (regravel and reshape)
- Preserve fines (dust control)
- Stabilize or “waterproof”



# Engineered Unpaved Roads



# Outline

- Introduction
- Understanding unpaved road materials
- Balanced mix design for unpaved roads
- Blending tool
- Chemical treatment selection tool
- Conclusions

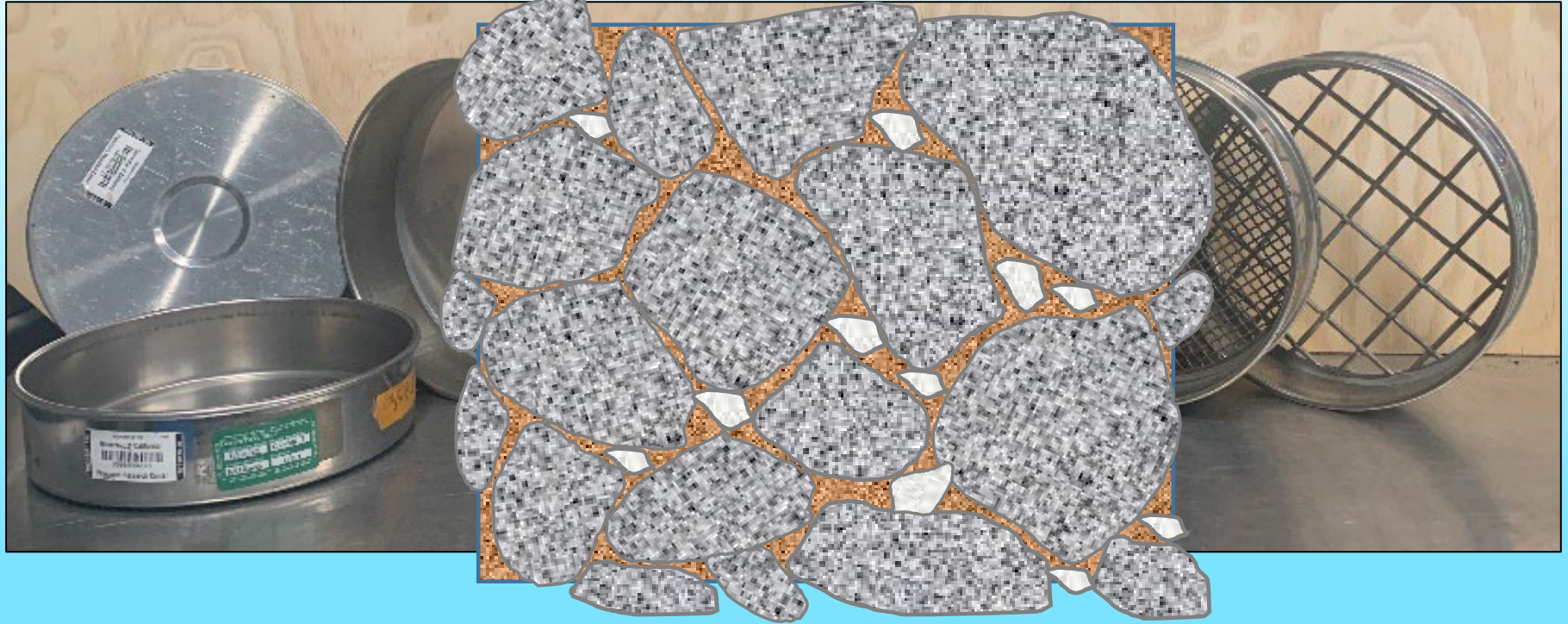


# Understanding Materials

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# Materials - Grading



## Aggregate interlock

The right ratio between coarse, intermediate, and fine particles  
(26.5mm [1in.], 4.75mm [#4], and 2.36mm [#8] sieves)

# Materials – Clay Content (Cohesion)

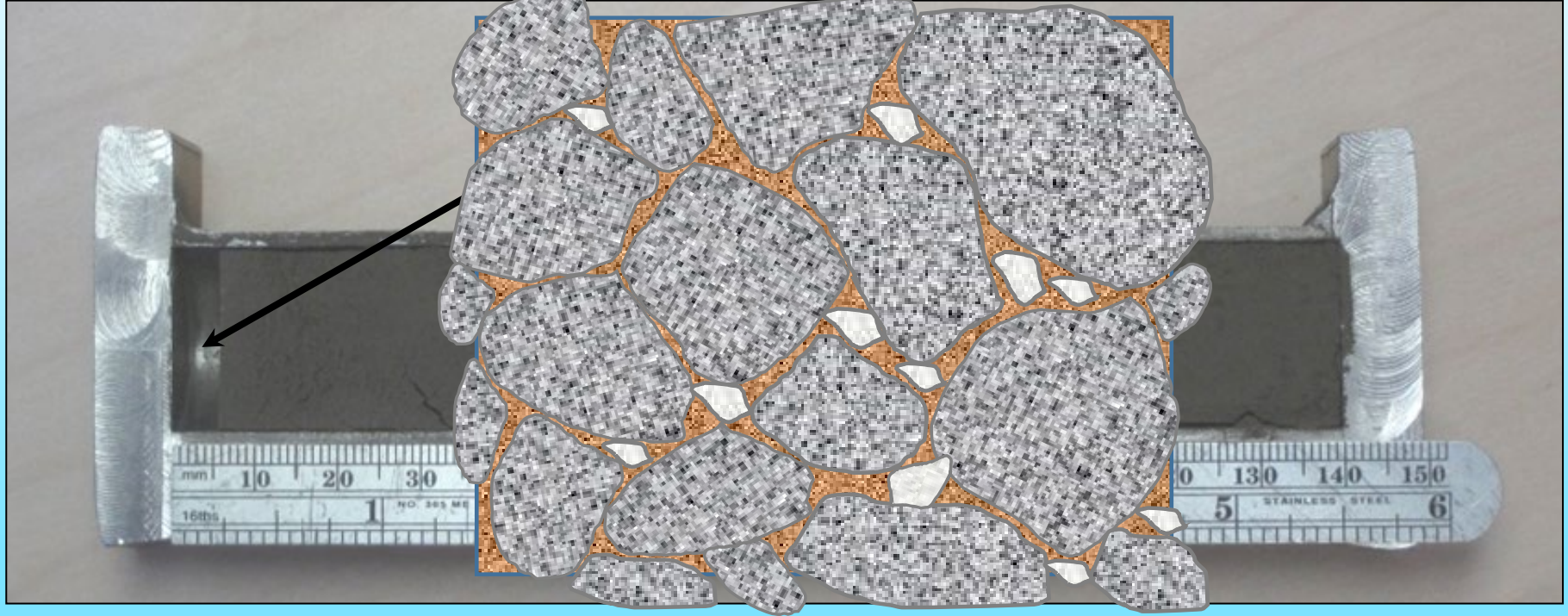
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$$\text{Liquid Limit} - \text{Plastic Limit} = \text{Plasticity Index}$$



# Materials – Clay Content (Shrinkage)



Some "glue" to hold everything together (weighted plasticity factor [linear shrinkage preferred])

# Test Results ( $\pm$ \$300)



## LABORATORY SUMMARY

PROJECT NAME:		Roadwise General
CLIENT NAME:		Roadwise
LOCATION:		Moscow, Idaho
SAMPLE NUMBER:	1	
LAB SAMPLE NUMBER:	A312-108	
SAMPLED BY:	5/1/2012	
DATE SAMPLED:	B. Bowles	
MATERIAL:	Stockpile 58"	
TEST DESCRIPTION	SPEC	RESULTS
<b>SIEVE ANALYSIS</b>		
AASHTO T27, T248 / ASTM D421, C135, C102, D1140		
1"		100
3/4"		100
1/2"		98
3/8"		84
#4		51
#6		31
#10		27
#16		20
#30		15
#40		13
#50		11
#100		9
#200		6.9
<b>ATTERBERG LIMITS DETERMINATION</b>		
AASHTO T88, T90 / ASTM D4318		
Non-Plastic		
<b>FRACTURE COUNT</b>		
AASHTO TP61 / ASTM D6821		
100		
REVIEWED BY:		

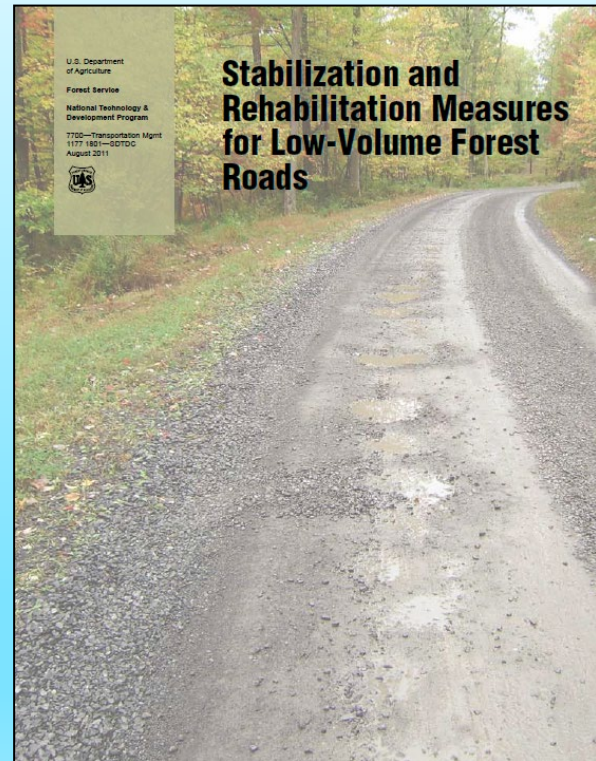
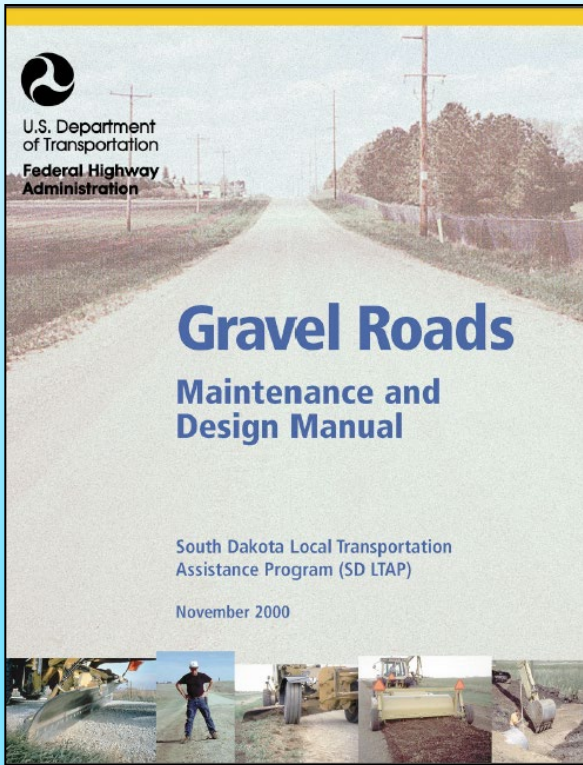
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- 2127 2nd Avenue North • Lewiston, ID 83501 • (208) 743-1111

Revision #1- 03.20.12

SIEVE ANALYSIS			
ASTM C117, C135, C102, D1140			
26.5	1	100	100
19.0	3/4	100	94
13.2	1/2	98	80
9.50	3/8	84	80
4.75	#4	51	48
2.36	#8	31	31
2.00	#10	27	28
1.18	#16	20	21
1.00	#30	15	16
0.425	#40	13	14
0.300	#50	11	12
0.150	#100	9	10
0.075	#200	6.9	7.5
<b>ATTERBERG LIMITS DETERMINATION</b>		<b>Non-Plastic</b>	<b>Non-Plastic</b>
ASTM D4318			

# US Guidelines & Specifications



# Why Read Guidelines?

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# Example US Federal Specifications

Parameter			FHWA	USFS	
				Public Use	Haul
<b>Sieve (mm [in.])</b>	26.5	(1)	100	100	97 – 100
	19.0	(3/4)	90 – 100	97 – 100	76 – 89
	4.75	(#4)	50 – 78	51 – 63	43 – 53
	2.36	(#8)	37 – 67	28 – 39	23 – 32
	0.425	(#40)	13 – 35	19 – 27	15 – 23
	0.075	(#200)	4 – 15	10 – 16 <sup>1</sup> or 6 - 12 <sup>1</sup>	10 – 16 <sup>1</sup> or 6 - 12 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Plasticity Index</b>			4 – 12	2 – 9 if P0.075 is <12% <2 if P0.075 is >12%	
<sup>1</sup> Range for Po.075 is 6.0 to 12.0% if PI is greater than zero					

# US vs. MDOT Specifications

Parameter		FHWA	USFS Public Use	Michigan (Table 902-1)
Sieve (mm [in.])	26.5 (1)	100	100	100
	19.0 (3/4)	90 – 100	97 – 100	–
	9.5 (3/8)	–	–	60 – 85
	4.75 (#4)	50 – 78	51 – 63	–
	2.36 (#8)	37 – 67	28 – 39	25 – 60
	0.425 (#40)	13 – 35	19 – 27	–
	0.075 (#200)	4 – 15	10 – 16 <sup>1</sup> or 6 – 12 <sup>1</sup>	9 – 16
Plasticity Index		4 – 12	2 – 9 if P075 is <12% <2 if P075 is >12%	Not specified
<sup>1</sup> Range for P0.075 is 6.0 to 12.0% if PI is greater than zero				

# Outline

- Introduction
- Understanding unpaved road materials
- **Balanced mix design for unpaved roads**
- Blending tool
- Chemical treatment selection tool
- Conclusions



# Test Results ( $\pm$ \$300)



PROJECT NAME:	Roadwise
CLIENT NAME:	Roads
LOCATION:	Moscow
SAMPLE NUMBER:	
LAB SAMPLE NUMBER:	
SAMPLED BY:	
DATE SAMPLED:	
MATERIAL:	
TEST DESCRIPTION	SPEC
SIEVE ANALYSIS	
AASHTO T27, T248 / ASTM C117, C135, C102, D1140	
1"	
3/4"	
1/2"	
3/8"	
STRUCTURE COUNT	
AASHTO TP61 / ASTM D6821	
REVIEWED BY:	

SIEVE ANALYSIS			
ASTM C117, C135, C102, D1140			
26.5		100	100
19.0		100	94
		98	80
		84	80
	#4	51	48
	#8	31	31
	#10	27	28
1.18	#16	20	21
1.00	#30	15	16
0.425	#40	13	14
0.300	#50	11	12
0.150	#100	9	10
0.075	#200	6.9	7.5
ATTERBERG LIMITS DETERMINATION		Non-Plastic	Non-Plastic
ASTM D4318			

Test, don't guess!

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# Balanced Mix Design for Unpaved Roads

- Replace grading envelopes with grading coefficient ( $G_c$ )
  - Ratio of coarse, intermediate, and fine
  - $((P_{26}-P_{2.36}) \times P_{4.75}) / 100$
  - Target 15 to 35
- Replace plasticity index range with shrinkage product ( $S_p$ )
  - Weighted plasticity
  - Bar linear shrinkage (or  $\frac{1}{2}PI$ )  $\times P_{0.425}$
  - Target 100 to 365; preferably 100 to 240



# Balanced Mix Design for Unpaved Roads

Maximum size (mm/in.)

Particle size distribution factors

Weighted clay factor

Strength

>15

relations and test methods!

impact on construction and maintenance quality!\*\*

Not rocket science, just rocks  
and a little arithmetic!

# Calibrate for Local Use

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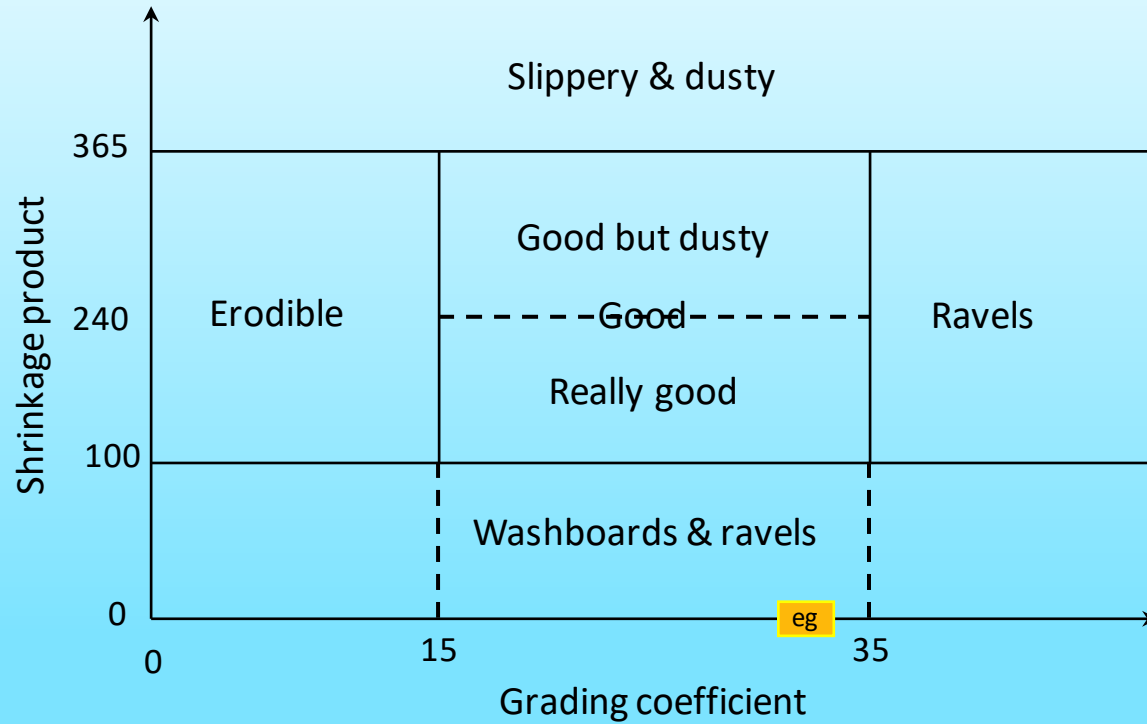
# Predicting Road Performance

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- Plot shrinkage product against grading coefficient to get expected performance
  - "Balancing" plasticity and gradation

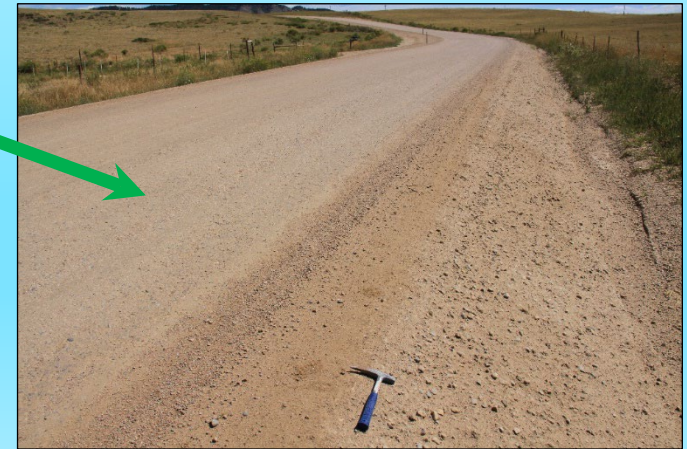
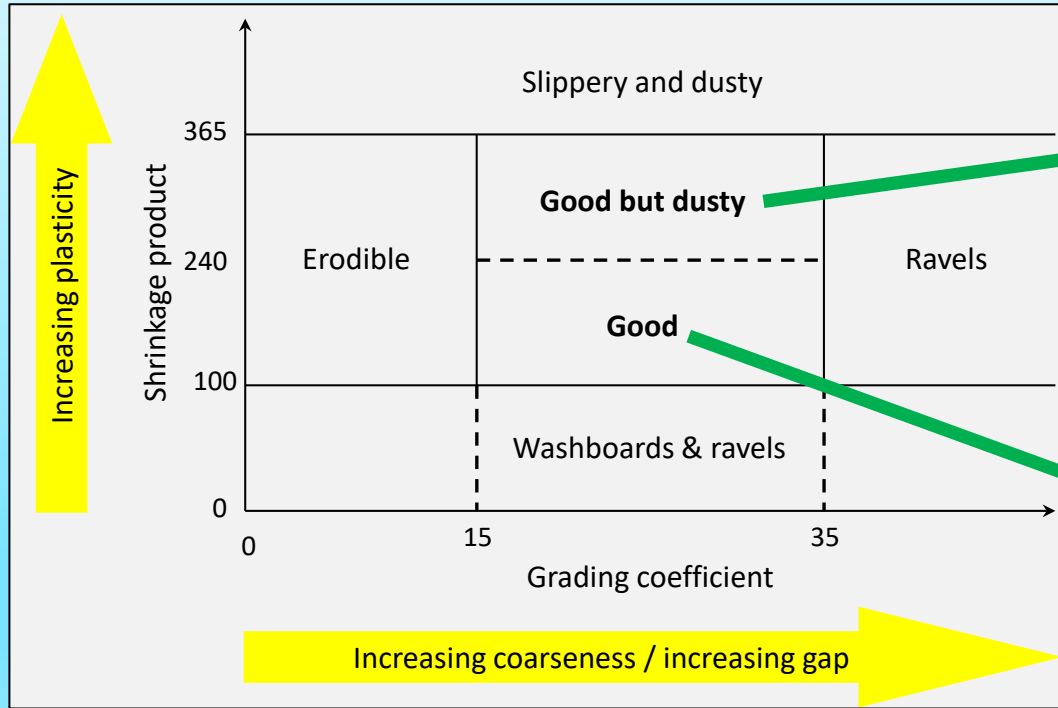
# Predicting Road Performance

Increasing plasticity

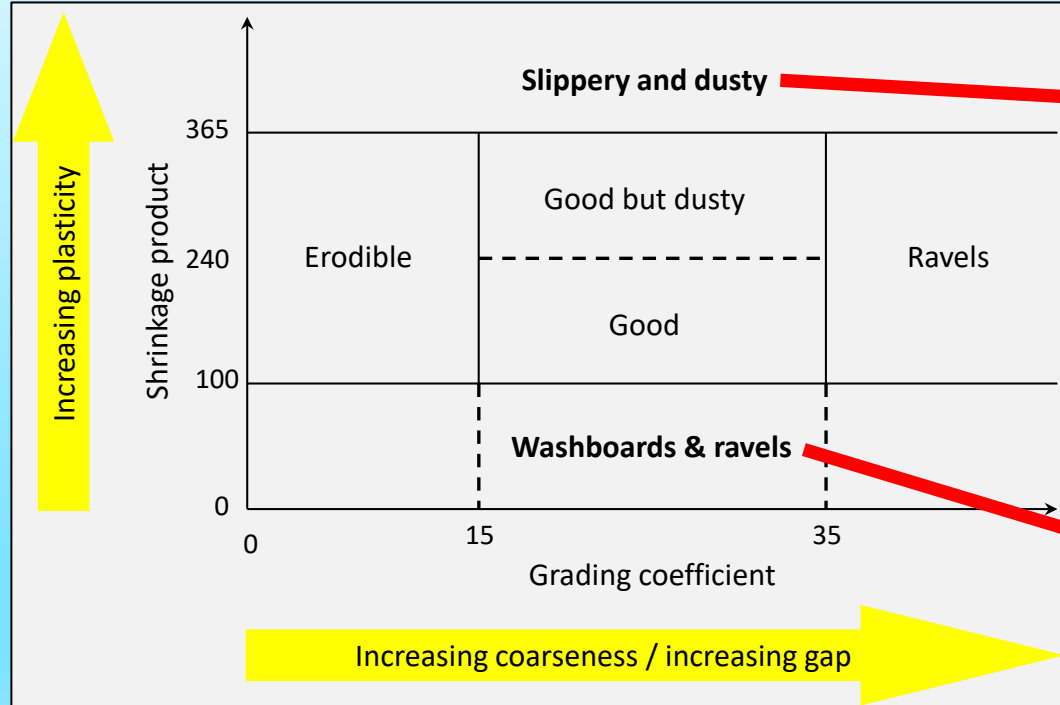


Increasing coarseness / increasing gap

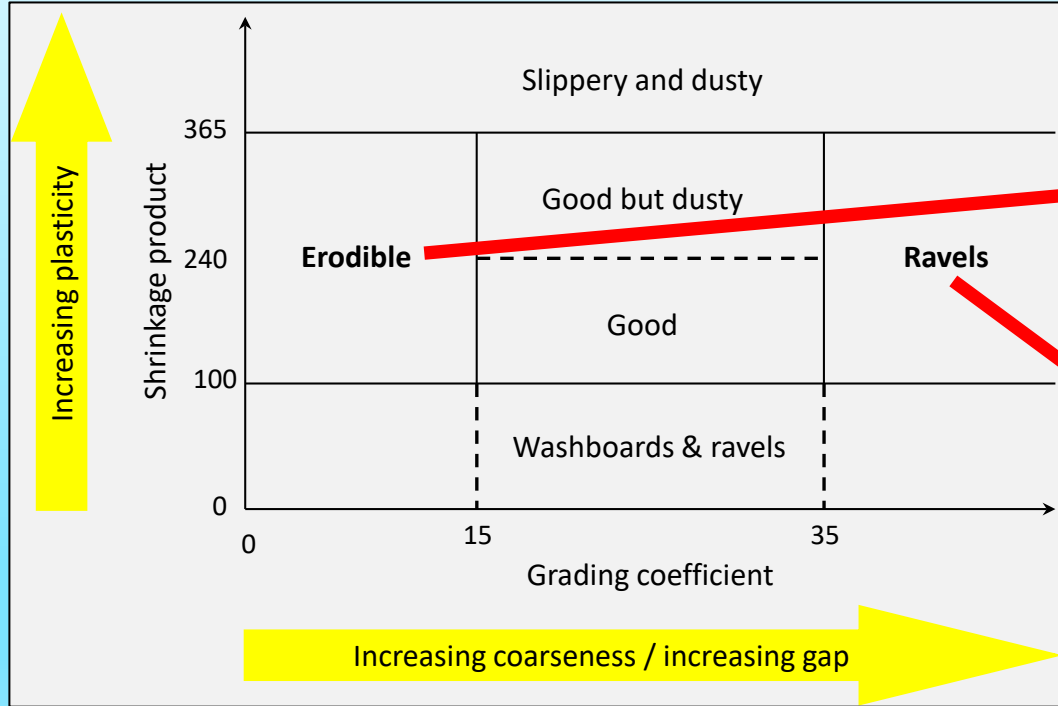
# Predicting Road Performance



# Predicting Road Performance



# Predicting Road Performance





# Deformation - Potholes

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# Deformation - Rutting

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Shape + compaction + thickness!

# How do US Guidelines Predict?

Parameter			FHWA	USFS	
				Public Use	Haul
Sieve (mm/US)	26.5	1	100	100	97 – 100
	4.75	#4	50 – 78	51 – 63	43 – 53
	2.36	#8	37 – 67	28 – 39	23 – 32
	0.425	#40	13 – 35	19 – 27	15 – 23
Plasticity Index			4 – 12	2 – 9 if P <sub>0.075</sub> is <12% <2 if P <sub>0.075</sub> is >12%	

# How do US Guidelines Predict?

Parameter			FHWA	USFS	
				Public Use	Haul
Sieve (mm/US)	26.5	1	100	100	97 – 100
	4.75	#4	50 – 78	51 – 63	43 – 53
	2.36	#8	37 – 67	28 – 39	23 – 32
	0.425	#40	13 – 35	19 – 27	15 – 23
Plasticity Index			4 – 12	2 – 9 if P <sub>0.075</sub> is <12% <2 if P <sub>0.075</sub> is >12%	
Grading Coefficient: (15 – 35)		Low range Mid range High range Worst case			
Shrinkage Product: (100 – 365)		Low range Mid range High range Worst case			

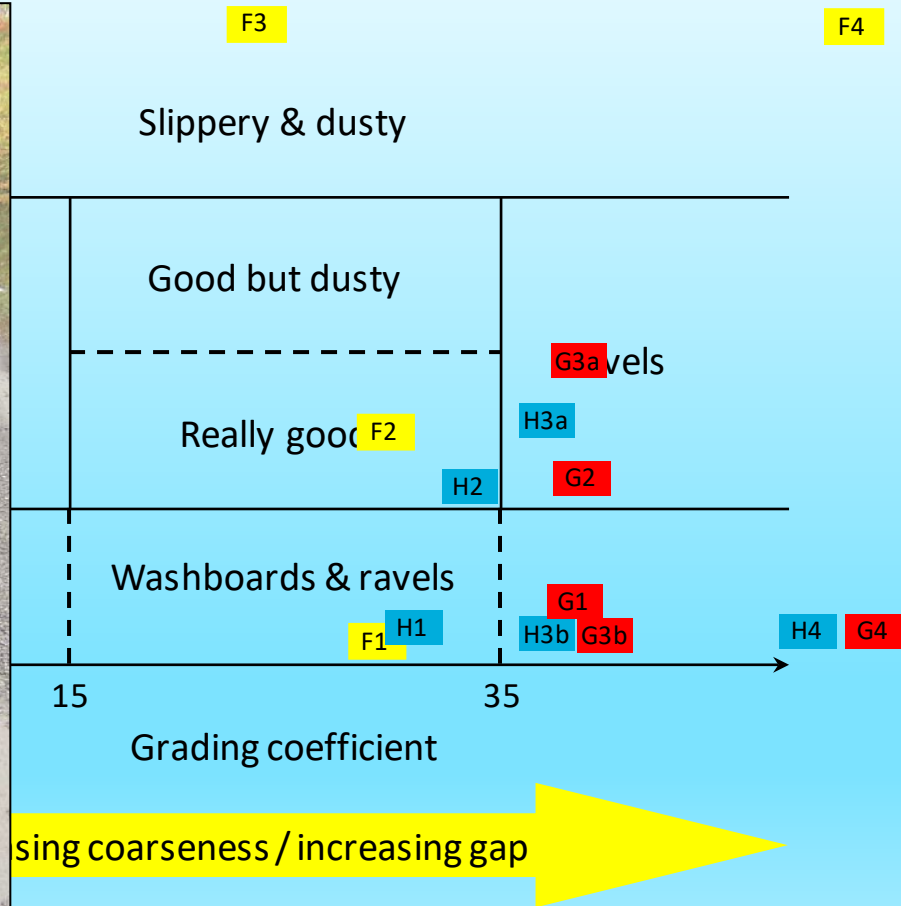
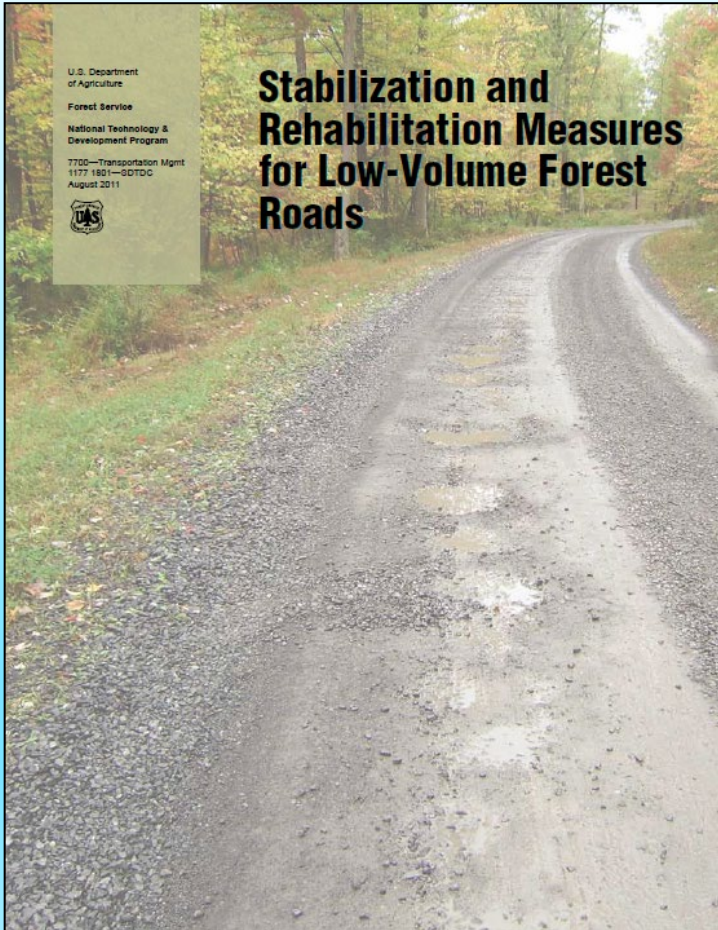
# How do US Guidelines Predict?

Parameter			FHWA	USFS	
				Public Use	Haul
Sieve (mm/US)	26.5	1	100	100	97 – 100
	4.75	#4	50 – 78	51 – 63	43 – 53
	2.36	#8	37 – 67	28 – 39	23 – 32
	0.425	#40	13 – 35	19 – 27	15 – 23
Plasticity Index			4 – 12	2 – 9 if P <sub>0.075</sub> is <12% <2 if P <sub>0.075</sub> is >12%	
Grading Coefficient: (15 – 35)	Low range		32	37	32
	Mid range		31	38	34
	High range		26	38	36
	Worst case		49	45	41
Shrinkage Product: (100 – 365)	Low range		26	38	30
	Mid range		192	126	105
	High range		420	243/27	207/23
	Worst case		420	27	23

# How do US Guidelines Predict?

Parameter			FHWA	USFS	
				Public Use	Haul
Sieve (mm/US)	26.5	1	100	100	97 – 100
	4.75	#4	50 – 78	51 – 63	43 – 53
	2.36	#8	37 – 67	28 – 39	23 – 32
	0.425	#40	13 – 35	19 – 27	15 – 23
Plasticity Index			4 – 12	2 – 9 if P <sub>0.075</sub> is <12% <2 if P <sub>0.075</sub> is >12%	
Grading Coefficient: (15 – 35)	Low range		32	<b>37</b>	32
	Mid range		31	<b>38</b>	34
	High range		26	<b>38</b>	<b>36</b>
	Worst case		<b>49</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>41</b>
Shrinkage Product: (100 – 365)	Low range		<b>26</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>30</b>
	Mid range		192	126	105
	High range		<b>420</b>	243/ <b>27</b>	207/ <b>23</b>
	Worst case		<b>420</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>23</b>

# How do US Guidelines Predict?



# Discussion

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Don't always blame the contractor!



# Outline

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- Introduction
- Understanding unpaved road materials
- Balanced mix design for unpaved roads
- Blending tool
- Chemical treatment selection tool
- Conclusions

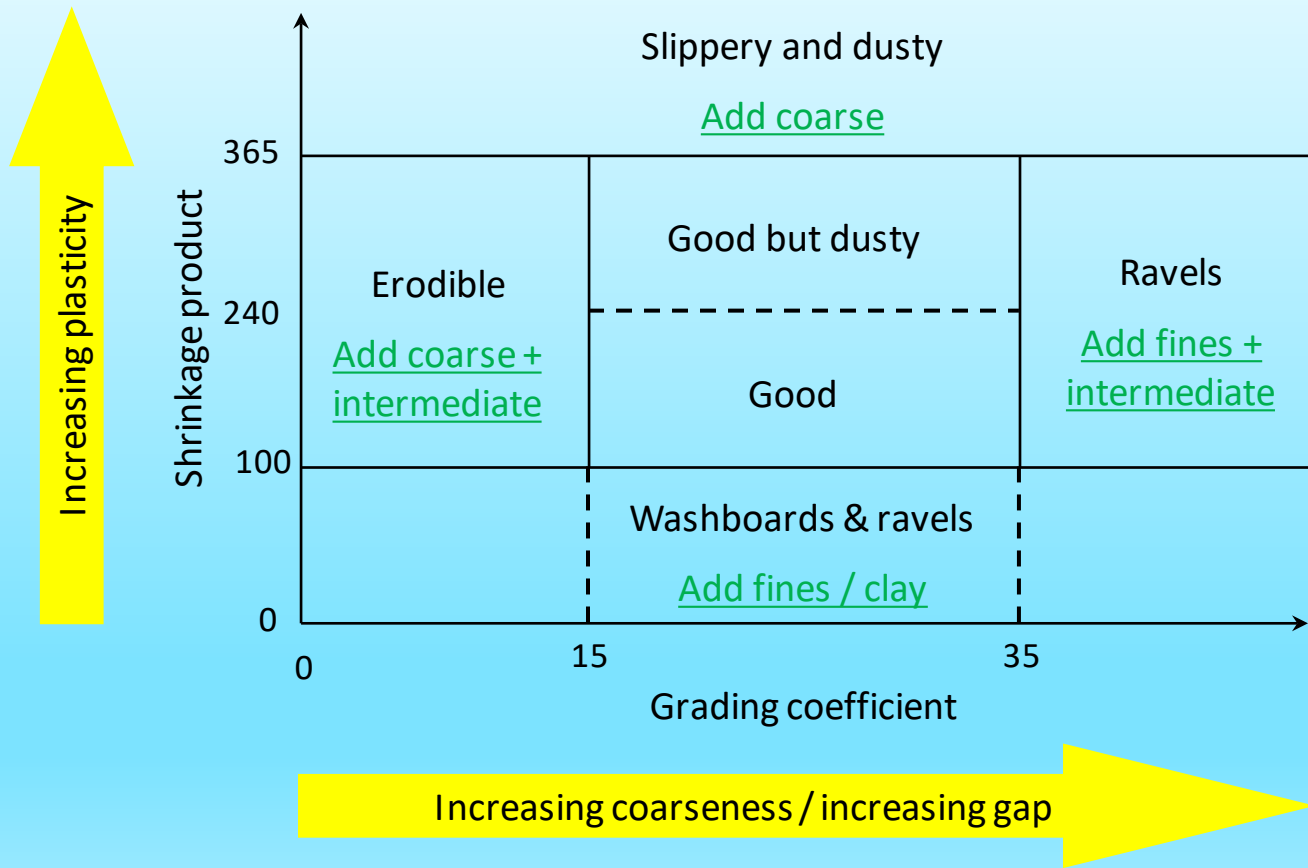


# Two wrongs can make a right

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# Mechanical Stabilization to Improve the Balance



# Web-Based Blending Tool

**UNPAVED ROAD MATERIAL DESIGN TOOL**

UCPRC City and County Pavement Improvement Center

Home Instructions Design About Print

WELCOME TO THE UNPAVED ROAD MATERIAL DESIGN TOOL

Units  
 US  SI

There are millions of kilometers of unpaved roads around the world managed by numerous authorities, land owners, and public and private organizations. Common to all of these roads are unacceptable levels of dust, poor riding quality (caused by erosion, washboarding, and/or raveling), and/or impassability in wet weather, and expensive maintenance and gravel replacement activities. Along with good construction practices, these problems can often be mitigated through better gravel selection, or by blending two or more materials to meet a performance-based specification.

With the growing interest in converting severely distressed low-volume paved roads to engineered unpaved roads, understanding expected performance in terms of the material properties after the conversion, which typically involves pulverizing the existing surface and blending it with the underlying layers, is increasingly important to ensure that the unpaved road is "better" than the paved road was. Mechanical stabilization of unpaved roads through blending of two materials is not new. However, determining appropriate blending ratios to meet performance-based specifications tends to be done on a trial and error basis until a satisfactory blend is achieved. This tool aims to eliminate the trial and error nature of material blending by providing a more accurate starting blend that can then be refined to provide optimal performance for a given application.

Ride quality affected by washboarding

Distressed low-volume paved road

An overview of performance-based specifications for unpaved road materials can be downloaded [here](#). Use of this tool is fully described in the UCPRC guidelines entitled [Guidance on the Conversion of Severely Distressed Paved Roads to Engineered Unpaved Roads](#) and [Guidance on Performance-Based Material Selection and Blending for Unpaved Roads](#).

Engineered unpaved road

**Disclaimer**  
This Unpaved Road Material Design Tool has been developed to guide selection and/or blending of materials to meet a performance-based specification. Using the tool requires input of laboratory test results for the actual materials that will be used. Skipping the laboratory testing and guessing input values, or using default values from other projects, will lead to inaccurate output values. Output from the tool provides a starting point for a blend, which will need to be tested to confirm that it meets the required specification. In no event shall the University of California be liable to any party for direct, indirect, special, incidental, or consequential damages, including lost profits, arising out of the use of this system, even if the University of California has been advised of the possibility of such damage. The University of California specifically disclaims any warranties, including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose and noninfringement.

Accept

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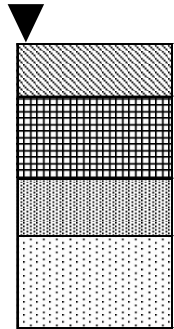
- Coded manual procedure with simple user interface
- Determines proportion that each layer contributes to a target thickness as a percentage
- Includes:
  - Three layers plus subgrade
  - Up to three materials in a blend
  - User defined materials library
  - Blend verification
- Rubbish in, rubbish out
  - Use actual test results
  - Use actual layer thicknesses

# Example: Balanced Mix Design Correction

## Balance Mix Design Correction Option

Existing Road

Modeled Road

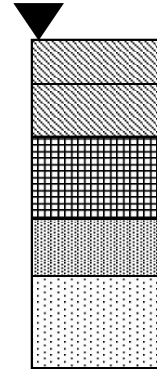


**Additional Aggregate Surfacing: ± 100 mm (4 in.)**

**Aggregate Surfacing: ± 25 mm (1 in.)**

**Aggregate Base: ± 100 mm (4 in.)**

**Subgrade: Semi-infinite**



**Bentonite: ± 6 mm (0.25 in.)**

**Additional Aggregate Surfacing: ± 100 mm (4 in.)**

**Aggregate Surfacing: ± 25 mm (1 in.)**

**Aggregate Base: ± 100 mm (4 in.)**

**Subgrade: Semi-infinite**

▼ Surface level - start of blend depth



# Recommended Thickness Designs (FHWA guide)

Estimated Daily Truck Traffic	Subgrade Shear Strength (CBR)	Suggested Minimum Gravel Thickness (mm)
0 to 5	<3	175
	3 to 10	150
	>10	125
5 to 10	<3	225
	3 to 10	175
	>10	150
10 to 25	<3	300
	3 to 10	225
	>10	175
25 to 50	<3	380
	3 to 10	300
	>10	225
50 to 75	<3	455
	3 to 10	380
	>10	300

# Example: Balanced Mix Design Correction

Existing road

Design thickness

Recycle depth

Supplemental aggregate

Materials library

Verification

Project ID: Balance Mix Design Correction

**Existing Structure**

2 Layers | 3 Layers | 4 Layers | Delete All Layers

#	Type	Thickness (Inch)	Layer Sum (Inch)	Passing 1" (%)	Passing #4 (%)	Passing #8 (%)	Passing #40 (%)	Passing #200 (%)	BLS (or PI/2)	Actions
1	Aggregate base	4.0	4.0	100	64	52	24	10	2	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> <a href="#">Insert</a>
2	Aggregate base	1.0	5.0	100	64	52	24	10	6	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> <a href="#">Insert</a>
3	Aggregate subbase	4.0	9.0	100	78	60	41	15	10	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> <a href="#">Insert</a>
4	Subgrade	∞	9.0	100	84	78	58	44	11	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> <a href="#">Insert</a>

Thickness Design: 7.0 Inch ([Thickness Design Table](#))

Depth of Recycling: 5.0 Inch

[Predict Performance](#)

Add 0.3 Inch of Supplemental Material #: 4

Add 0.0 Inch of Supplemental Material #: Select

Plot Supplemental & Blend Validation Materials

\*\*\*\* Point plotted off of plot \*\*\*\*

Slippery and dusty (add coarse)

Good but dusty

Good

Washboards and ravel (add fine with some clay)

Shrinkage Product (Increasing Plasticity -->)

Grading Coefficient (Increasing Coarseness & Gap -->)

**Supplemental Material Library**

#	Description	Passing 1" (%)	Passing #4 (%)	Passing #8 (%)	Passing #40 (%)	Passing #200 (%)	BLS (or PI/2)	Actions
1	Aggregate Surfacing	100	64	52	24	10	2	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> <a href="#">Insert</a>
2	RAP	100	28	18	6	3	0	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> <a href="#">Insert</a>
3	Clay	100	87	82	62	54	18	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> <a href="#">Insert</a>
4	Bentonite*	100	100	100	98	95	50	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> <a href="#">Insert</a>

Add Material [Chemical Treatment Selection Tool](#)

**Blend Validation**

Description	Passing 1" (%)	Passing #4 (%)	Passing #8 (%)	Passing #40 (%)	Passing #200 (%)	BLS (or PI/2)	Actions
Blend Validation	100	66	55	28	15	5	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Clear</a>

Actual

Predicted

# Example: Balanced Mix Design Correction

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# Outline

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- Introduction
- Understanding unpaved road materials
- Balanced mix design for unpaved roads
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# Chemical Treatment Categories

- Fines retention/dust control
  - Water and water with surfactants
  - Water absorbing (chlorides)
  - Organic non-petroleum (plant-based)
  - Organic petroleum (crude-based)
- Stabilization/strength improvement
  - Organic petroleum
  - Synthetic polymer emulsions (acrylates, etc.)
  - Concentrated liquid stabilizers



## UNPAVED ROAD CHEMICAL TREATMENT SELECTION TOOL

[Home](#) [Instructions](#) [Treatment Selection](#) [Results Interpretation](#) [About](#)

### WELCOME TO THE UCPRC'S UNPAVED ROAD CHEMICAL SELECTION TOOL SITE

There are millions of kilometers/miles of unpaved roads around the world managed by numerous authorities, land owners, and public and private organizations. Common to all of these roads are unacceptable levels of dust, poor riding quality and/or impassability in wet weather, and expensive maintenance and gravel replacement activities. Over the last 100+ years, a range of different chemical treatments have been developed to overcome these issues. Most of these are proprietary, which can complicate selection of an appropriate treatment for a specific set of conditions. There is also no single product that will solve all problems under all conditions.

#### Language & Units

- English  Spanish  
 US  SI



Loss of fines (as dust) on an untreated road  
results of applying a fines preservation treatment.

A procedure has therefore been developed to guide practitioners in the selection of an appropriate treatment. This procedure, based on the 1999 US Forest Service Guide (*Dust Palliative Selection and Application Guide*), and updated with new research and experience, factors traffic, climate, material properties, and road geometry into the most appropriate treatment selections for a given set of input values. The procedure is based on the philosophy of using chemical treatments to keep good roads in good condition, rather than attempting to use chemical treatments to "fix" bad roads. This unpaved road chemical treatment selection tool and information related to it is fully described in the UCPRC guideline entitled "[Guidelines for the Selection, Specification, and Application of Chemical Dust Control and Stabilization Treatments on Unpaved Roads](#)." This web-based chemical treatment selection tool can be considered as a companion to the guideline.

The photo on the left shows loss of fines on an untreated road while the photo on the right shows the



Stable fines preservation on a treated road

#### Disclaimer

This unpaved road chemical treatment selection procedure has been developed to guide selection of an appropriate treatment. It is based on the experience of practitioners and documented field experiment results. It is a guide only and does not replace engineering practice and judgment. Before initiating a treatment program, users should check actual performance for their particular materials and conditions with appropriate laboratory performance tests and/or short field experiments and/or seek guidance from other experienced practitioners and treatment suppliers. The University of California does not endorse the use of any specific product for dust control and stabilization of unpaved roads. In no event shall the University of California be liable to any party for direct, indirect, special, incidental, or consequential damages, including lost profits, arising out of the use of this system, even if the University of California has been advised of the possibility of such damage. The University of California specifically disclaims any warranties, including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose and noninfringement.

Accept

# Treatment selection for BMD

Objective Traffic

Climate

Road details

Material properties

Evaluation parameters

### UNPAVED ROAD CHEMICAL TREATMENT SELECTION TOOL

Home | Instructions | Treatment Selection | Results Interpretation | About

Road ID: CR18 | Details: km 1 to km 1

#### Material Test Results

%Passing 25	100	%Passing 0.425	25
%Passing 4.75	45	%Passing 0.075	15
%Passing 2.36	35	PI (or BLSx2)	10

#### Objective

- Short-term dust control (spray-on)
- Long-term fines preservation (spray-on)
- Long-term fines preservation (mix-in)
- Long-term stabilization (mix-in)

#### Roadway Parameters

Traffic (AADT): < 100 | Climate: Damp

More Than 10% Trucks  
 Steep Grades  
 Sharp Curves

**Compute Ratings** | Environmental & Other Influences

#### Predicted Material Performance for Untreated Road

#### Treatment Ratings

Treatment	TR	CL	PI	FC	HV	SG	SC	Rating
Calcium Chloride	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1.0
Magnesium Chloride	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1.0
Glycerin Based	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1.0
Lignosulfonate	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1.0
Molasses/Sugar	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1.0
Plant Oil	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1.0
Tall Oil	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1.0
Base Oil	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1.0
Petroleum Resin	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1.0
Synthetic Fluid	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1.0
Synthetic Fluid + Binder	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1.0
Sodium Chloride Brine	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	2.0
Asphalt Emulsion	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	2.1
Synthetic Polymer	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	2.4
Water	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	NA
Water + Surfactant	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	NA
Concentrated Liquid Stabilizer	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	NA
Bentonite	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	NA

TR: Traffic; CL: Climate; PI: Plasticity; FC: Fines Content; HV: More Than 10% Trucks  
 SG: Steep Grades; SC: Sharp Curves; Rating: Treatment Performance Ratings

Suppliers

Print

Geometry

Ranking

Rating

# Treatment selection for UBMD (Low Sp)

## UNPAVED ROAD CHEMICAL TREATMENT SELECTION TOOL

Home Instructions Treatment Selection Results Interpretation About

Road ID  Details

### Material Test Results

%Passing 25  %Passing 0.425   
 %Passing 4.75  %Passing 0.075   
 %Passing 2.36  PI (or BLSx2)

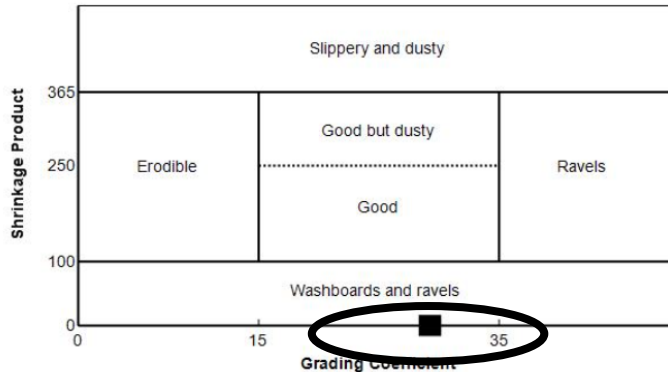
### Objective

- Short-term dust control (spray-on)
- Long-term fines preservation (spray-on)
- Long-term fines preservation (mix-in)
- Long-term stabilization (mix-in)

### Roadway Parameters

Traffic (AADT)  Climate   More Than 10% Trucks  
 Steep Grades  
 Sharp Curves

Predicted Material Performance for Untreated Road



Treatment Ratings

Treatment	TR	CL	PI	FC	HV	SG	SC	Rating
Asphalt Emulsion	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	2.0
Calcium Chloride	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	2.1
Magnesium Chloride	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	2.1
Glycerin Based	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	2.1
Lignosulfonate	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	2.1
Tall Oil	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	2.1
Base Oil	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	2.1
Petroleum Resin	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	2.1
Synthetic Fluid	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	2.1
Synthetic Fluid + Binder	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	2.1
Synthetic Polymer	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	2.4
Plant Oil	3	3	3	2	0	0	0	3.0
Sodium Chloride Brine	3	2	3	2	0	0	0	3.0
Molasses/Sugar	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	3.1
Water	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	NA
Water + Surfactant	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	NA
Concentrated Liquid Stabilizer	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	NA
Bentonite	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	NA

Change in rating order

TR: Traffic; CL: Climate; PI: Plasticity; FC: Fines Content; HV: More Than 10% Trucks  
 SG: Steep Grades; SC: Sharp Curves; Rating: Treatment Performance Ratings

# Treatment selection for UBMD (High Sp)

## UNPAVED ROAD CHEMICAL TREATMENT SELECTION TOOL

Home
Instructions
Treatment Selection
Results Interpretation
About

Road ID:  Details:

### Material Test Results

%Passing 1"	<input type="text" value="100"/>	%Passing #40	<input type="text" value="40"/>
%Passing #4	<input type="text" value="65"/>	%Passing #200	<input type="text" value="30"/>
%Passing #8	<input type="text" value="55"/>	PI (or BLSx)	<input type="text" value="22"/>

### Objective

- Short-term dust control (spray-on)
- Long-term fines preservation (spray-on)
- Long-term fines preservation (mix-in)
- Long-term stabilization (mix-in)

### Roadway Parameters

Traffic (AADT):  Climate:

More Than 10% Trucks  
 Steep Grades  
 Sharp Curves

### Predicted Material Performance for Untreated Road

### Treatment Ratings

Treatment	TR	CL	PI	FC	HV	SG	SC	Rating
Lignosulfonate	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	3.0
Plant Oil	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	3.0
Tall Oil	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	3.0
Base Oil	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	3.0
Synthetic Fluid	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	3.0
Synthetic Fluid + Binder	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	3.0
Calcium Chloride	1	1	3	2	0	0	0	3.0
Magnesium Chloride	1	1	3	2	0	0	0	3.0
Glycerin Based	1	1	3	2	0	0	0	3.0
Molasses/Sugar	1	1	3	2	0	0	0	3.0
Petroleum Resin	1	1	3	2	0	0	0	3.0
Sodium Chloride Brine	1	2	3	2	0	0	0	3.0
Asphalt Emulsion	1	1	3	3	0	0	0	3.1
Synthetic Polymer	2	2	3	3	0	0	0	3.2
Water	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	NA
Water + Surfactant	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	NA
Concentrated Liquid Stabilizer	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	NA
Clay Additive	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	NA

TR: Traffic; CL: Climate; PI: Plasticity; FC: Fines Content; HV: More Than 10% Trucks

SG: Steep Grades; SC: Sharp Curves; Rating: Treatment Performance Ratings

Suppliers

Print

Change in rating order

# Outline

- Introduction
- Understanding unpaved road materials
- Balanced mix design for unpaved roads
- Blending tool
- Chemical treatment selection tool
- Conclusions



# Conclusions

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- Unpaved roads are managed with very constrained budgets, but high user expectations
- Using performance-based specifications can reduce maintenance/extend regravelling intervals
- Difficult to source good unpaved road wearing course materials from commercial sources
- Relatively easy to blend supplemental aggregates to meet that performance specification
- Adopting an "engineered" unpaved road management strategy will be most cost-effective
- It's proven technology - give it a try!



# Thank-you!

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TRB's Conference on Data and AI for  
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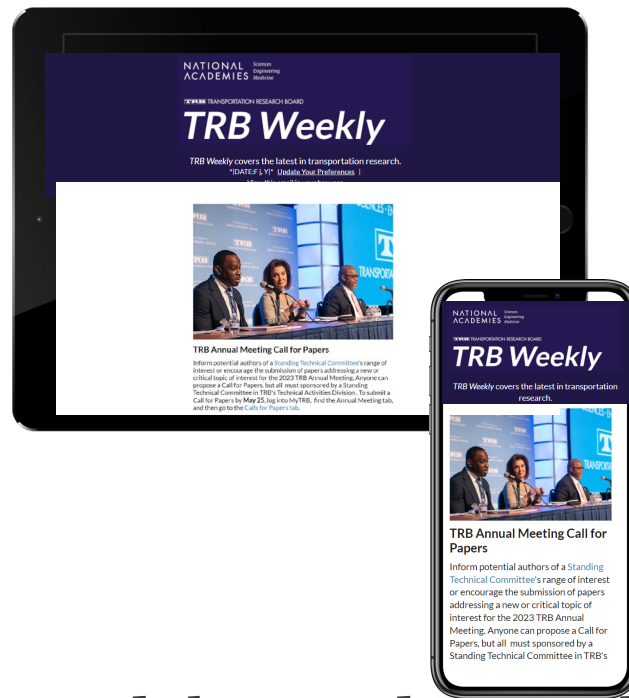


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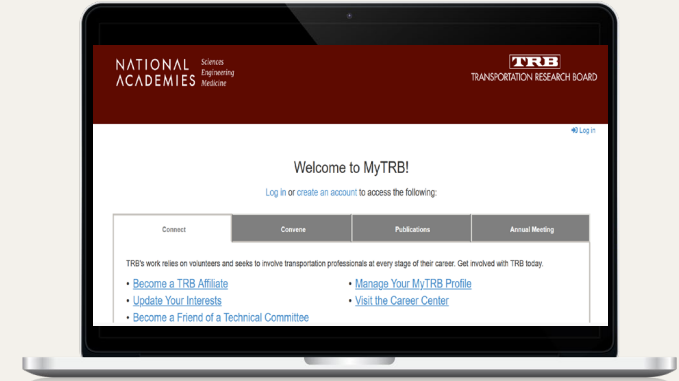
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