

**Forest Service Handbook
National Headquarters - Washington Office
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Forest Service Handbook 7709.56 – Road Preconstruction Handbook

Zero Code

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This handbook establishes procedures for locating, surveying, and designing Forest roads.

02 - Objective

To focus on project-level activities. For timber sales, these activities begin with those included in Gate 3, Sale Planning Implementation (FSM 2431.3).

06 - Pework

Before beginning project-level preconstruction engineering activities, make sure the following items have been accomplished:

1. Selection and definition of the area transportation network in terms of road corridors that meet the access needs of the entire area tributary to that network.
2. Approval of the environmental documents that encompass the project.
3. Documentation of the design criteria (sec. 4.1 and FSH 7709.55, sec. 31.1), including mitigation measures for other resources such as wildlife, soil and water, aesthetics, and recreation.
4. Documentation of operation and maintenance criteria (FSM 7730.3) including applicability of Highway Safety Act.
5. Development or updating of background files to include all significant information and techniques used in defining and selecting the road corridor and the design criteria.
6. Identification of landownership and right-of-way needs.

Section 4.24 illustrates specific road structure terms.