

## Edelweiss 2025 Road Plan Summary

The “Edelweiss Master Roads Plan Update” revises the [2020 Road Plan Update](#) developed by the Edelweiss Maintenance Commission (EMC) Roads Committee. Committee members include staff, board members and community residents who began their work in the fall of 2024.

Since the 2020 Road Plan was published, most of the short-term actions have been completed, including the following:

### Road Plan Accomplishments 2020-2025

- Firewise – A large EMC member- and state-funded project greatly reduced vegetation alongside roadways. The US Forest Service (USFS) made major improvements to East and West Fawn Road which provides emergency access out of the community in case of fire.
- Trespass – The Roads Committee collected vehicle data on Highland and Homestead Roads. We wrote a letter to the Methow Valley News Editor about trespass. Large “Private Road” signs were installed at entrances to the community. USFS-funded improvements to East Fawn Road now provides more direct and alternative access to the Rendezvous area. These actions greatly reduced trespass.
- Signage – New and refurbished speed signs and informational signs were installed throughout community and members were reminded of the speed limit in newsletters.
- Maintenance Vehicles – Several new pieces of maintenance equipment were purchased including a John Deere tractor, a new grader blade attachment for the tractor, a new pickup truck, and a new sander attachment.
- Dust Reduction – Lignin was applied twice per year until increased costs made that dust suppressant prohibitively expensive. A single annual application was deemed ineffective. A different dust suppressant is under consideration.
- Road Improvements – Rock Rose Road was widened. The Pressure Reducing Vault in roadway relocated. A tree that obstructed line of sight was removed. A large drainage improvement project was constructed at the entrance.

The following goals from the 2020 Road Plan remain the same.

### Goals:

1. Suppress dust alongside roads.
2. Eliminate safety hazards.
3. Improve road surfaces.
4. Promote road improvements for fire suppression efforts.
5. Develop plan for unmaintained roads.
6. Provide members with funding options that improve future road conditions.

Recommendations were developed that met these goals, addressed issues and focused on actions for Short-Term (0-5 years), Medium-Term (5-10 years) and Long-Term (greater than 10 years). It is the intent that this plan be updated every five years. Meanwhile, the Roads Committee will continue to meet and work on implementing the actions shown in the following tables.

Table 1. Summary of Issues and Short-term Recommended Actions

Issue	Short Term Actions
<p>1. Dust from Roadways can cause respiratory issues and limit visibility.</p>	<p>Communicate to members EMC's plans for dust reduction.</p>
	<p>Apply Earthbind, the dust suppressant used by Cascade Concrete on one or more test sections and analyze results.</p>
	<p>If Earthbind proves effective, continue to budget and apply annually.</p>
	<p>Improve the surface of roads to include additional gravel where needed to improve dust control and roadway condition as existing funding allows.</p>
	<p>Monitor effectiveness of gravel to reduce dust.</p>
	<p>Send out reminders to members about the need to obey the speed limits to reduce dust and road deterioration.</p>
<p>2. Many drivers exceed the speed limit.</p>	<p>Send out regular reminders to members about the need to obey the speed limits to improve safety, reduce dust, and limit road deterioration. Include a recommendation for homeowners using contractors to remind them to obey the speed limits.</p>
	<p>Monitor effectiveness of speed signs installed in 2024 and determine if additional signage is needed.</p>
	<p>Send known speeders a letter reminding them to slow down.</p>
<p>3. Narrow Roads do not allow safe travel for fire department trucks.</p>	<p>Prioritize work on roads with width deficiencies as much as possible.</p>
	<p>Identify appropriate areas for turnouts to accommodate emergency vehicles and widen roads in these area as funding and opportunities allow</p>
<p>4. Vegetation along roads could contribute to fire danger</p>	<p>Continue to support efforts by the Firewise Committee to reduce vegetation along roadways.</p>
	<p>Encourage vegetation removal along roads as part of the waterline replacement and road improvement project.</p>
<p>5. Limited sight-distance and other safety issues could cause accidents</p>	<p>Prioritize the narrow Highland Road section in future OCEC/Edelweiss waterline replacement and road improvement project.</p>
	<p>Monitor effectiveness of reflectors at the curve on the east end of Cassal Road.</p>
	<p>Apply gravel when icy conditions dictate, particularly on Homestead, Highland and Rock Rose Roads.</p>
	<p>Work with lot owner on the inside curve of Highland Road to remove larger trees and Firewise the lot.</p>

Issue	Short Term Actions
6. <i>Trespass accelerates road deterioration</i>	Monitor the effectiveness of measures to reduce trespassing and reevaluate options as needed.
7. <i>Lack of adequate drainage causes erosion and poor road surface condition</i>	Support new language from the Architectural Guidelines regarding drainage for new construction projects.
	Clean out obstructed drainage ditches and culverts.
	Monitor effectiveness of drainage improvement at the entrance and make recommendations based on that review.
	Improve drainage when upgrading roads with the waterline replacement and road improvement project.
8. <i>If all roads are not graded annually, they can become substandard and extensive washboards and potholes form.</i>	Direct contractor upgrading roads (in association with the waterline and road improvement project ), to reconstruct roads with appropriate slope and quality and quantity of surface material.
	Starting in June or July, 2025, grade the arterial roads and campground roads in Edelweiss and apply gravel as needed either using a contractor or existing staff and tractor with a grader blade. In October of 2025, review the effectiveness of the grading to determine if it should continue into the next year
9. <i>There is a lack of funding for significant road improvements.</i>	Continue to include road maintenance funds in the annual budget and adjust to meet appropriate cost of living increases.
	Continue to budget adequate funds to make improvements to the roads to meet the standards as per this plan in each annual waterline and road improvement project.
	Develop cost-benefit analyses of various surface treatments over a twenty-year lifespan. Treatments such as Lignin, Earthbind, asphalt, chip seal, and asphalt/chip seal in combination should be evaluated.
	Survey members to determine if there is support to increase funding for road improvements.
10. <i>E and W Fawn Creek Roads were vastly improved by the USFS in 2023; however, no money has been allocated for on-going maintenance.</i>	The board should continue open communication with the USFS and monitor possible funding opportunities for maintaining both East and West Fawn Creek Roads.
	Review maintenance needs for East and West Fawn Creek Roads during the annual budget process and allocate maintenance funding as needed.
11. <i>The waterline replacement and road improvement project is likely to be more expensive and take much longer than planned.</i>	Coordinate with the Finance Committee to ensure road priorities are included in the plans for the waterline replacement and road improvement project.
	Inform residents about the potential lack of funding to complete the project and need to analyze future funding options.

TABLE 2. SUMMARY OF ISSUES AND LONGER-TERM RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

<b>Issues:</b>	Medium- and Long-Term Actions
1. <i>Dust from Roadways can cause respiratory issues and limit visibility.</i>	Continue to monitor effectiveness of Earthbind and/or other methods of dust-suppression.
	Analyze paving and continued gravel surface options to reduce dust
2. <i>Many drivers exceed the speed limit.</i>	If speed continues to be an issue, consider renting or buying a handheld or portable speed radar unit in an effort to monitor the extent of speeding and to determine if measures to reduce speed are effective.
3. <i>Narrow Roads do not allow safe travel for fire department trucks.</i>	Continue to maintain road widths
4. <i>Vegetation along roads could contribute to fire danger</i>	Continue to support efforts by the Firewise Committee to reduce vegetation along roadways.
	Encourage vegetation removal along roads as part of the waterline replacment and road improvement project.
5. <i>Limited sight-distance and other safety_ issues could cause accidents</i>	Continued vigilance
6. <i>Trespass accelerates road deterioration</i>	Monitor the effectiveness of measures discouraging trespass and reevaluate options as needed.
7. <i>Lack of adequate drainage causes erosion and poor road surface condition</i>	Consult with an engineer about potential drainage improvements in the subdivision.
	Perform drainage improvements as recommended by the engineers and as funding allows.
8. <i>If all roads are not graded annually, they can become substandard and extensive washboards and potholes form.</i>	Conduct a cost-benefit analysis to determine if chip seal or paving roads or portions of roads in Edelweiss is a worthwhile and sustainable option.
	Share results of the cost-benefit analysis with the community.
	If supported by the community, develop funding scenarios and implement a project to pave or chip seal main roads in Edelweiss.
9. <i>There is a lack of funding for significant road improvements.</i>	Continue to include road maintenance funds in the annual budget and adjust to meet appropriate cost of living increases .
	Continue to budget adequate funds to make improvements to the roads to meet the standards as per this plan in each annual waterline and road improvement project.
	Based on the cost-benefit analysis of surface treatments, develop alternative funding options.
	Budget for engineer to look at drainage.
<b>Issues:</b>	Medium- and Long-Term Actions

<i>10. No money has been allocated for on-going maintenance of USFS Road 100.</i>	The board should continue open communication with the USFS and monitor possible funding opportunities for maintaining both East and West Fawn Creek Roads.
	Review maintenance needs for East and West Fawn Creek Roads during the annual budget process and allocate maintenance funding as needed.