



With the tires on a soft surface and a downslope it is easy for Inertia to combine with roll forces to push the vehicle over.



There are over 150,000 miles of downslopes on our freeways, as most medians, as shown here, have downslopes from both directions.

The number one cause of rollovers on freeways is drivers taking the wrong actions when their vehicles drift onto the downslope.

Practice: When driving or riding, become observant of the shoulder conditions. Give yourself the challenge as to what action would you take if your car drifted into that condition. Use the chart on the left to see how many of the actions you can correctly control.

Conditions and Actions to Take

1. Brake and steer to get back onto the road when:

- Shoulder is level with the road
- Shoulder is lower than the road
- Shoulder is firm
- Shoulder slopes towards road
- Path of travel is open

2. Steer away from road and brake when:

- Shoulder slopes away from road
- Shoulder is soft

3. Brake and stop as soon as possible when:

- Path of travel is closed
- High rate of speed
- Slick road surface



In-Car Mental Off-Road Practice