



Support House Joint Memorial 11

A Bipartisan Resolution Urging Bipartisan Congressional Action to Protect Jobs and Essential Public Services

What does HJM 11 do?

HJM 11 urges the President and the U.S. Congress to find a long-term solution for management of Bureau of Land Management's O&C forest lands.

What are the O&C Lands, and why are they so important to Western Oregon's counties, rural communities and economy?

The O&C Lands are essential to the social and economic well being of western Oregon communities. Sustained yield forestry on O&C Lands provides jobs, supports local economies and helps pay for essential public services. Under federal law, the 2.1 million acres of O&C Lands are required to be managed under principles of sustained-yield forestry, meaning no more wood is cut than is grown. Counties hosting O&C Lands receive 50 percent of revenues from timber receipts. These revenues are essential because many O&C counties are dominated by federally-owned lands that pay no property taxes. The leading County uses of O&C revenues include Sheriff's patrols; District Attorney and Corrections; Public and Mental Health Services; County Assessor Services; Search, Rescue and Emergency Services; Programs for Juveniles and Seniors; and even libraries! For many years, this county-federal partnership was successful in sustaining vital public services, while supporting jobs and economic activity in rural Western Oregon. Visit <http://www.oandc.org> to learn more about the O&C Counties and O&C Lands.

Why are our O&C counties and rural communities now in crisis?

The use of O&C payments to finance general funds has been a very significant factor for the O&C Counties and historically made up more than 50 percent of several Counties' discretionary budgets. When harvest levels collapsed in the early 1990s due to changes in Federal policies, shared timber receipts dropped by almost 90 percent. Thereafter, Congress adopted a series of temporary "safety net" measures that resulted in payments to Counties in lieu of timber receipts. The most recent such measures, known as the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (SRS) program, ended in 2015. There is little prospect of any further renewals of SRS. As a result, Counties are once again reliant on the timber harvest receipts to support local services. Unfortunately, the level of support for County budgets from current and projected BLM management is drastically below historic levels. See chart on opposition side of page.

What happens if this crisis is not addressed, and how will this affect state government?

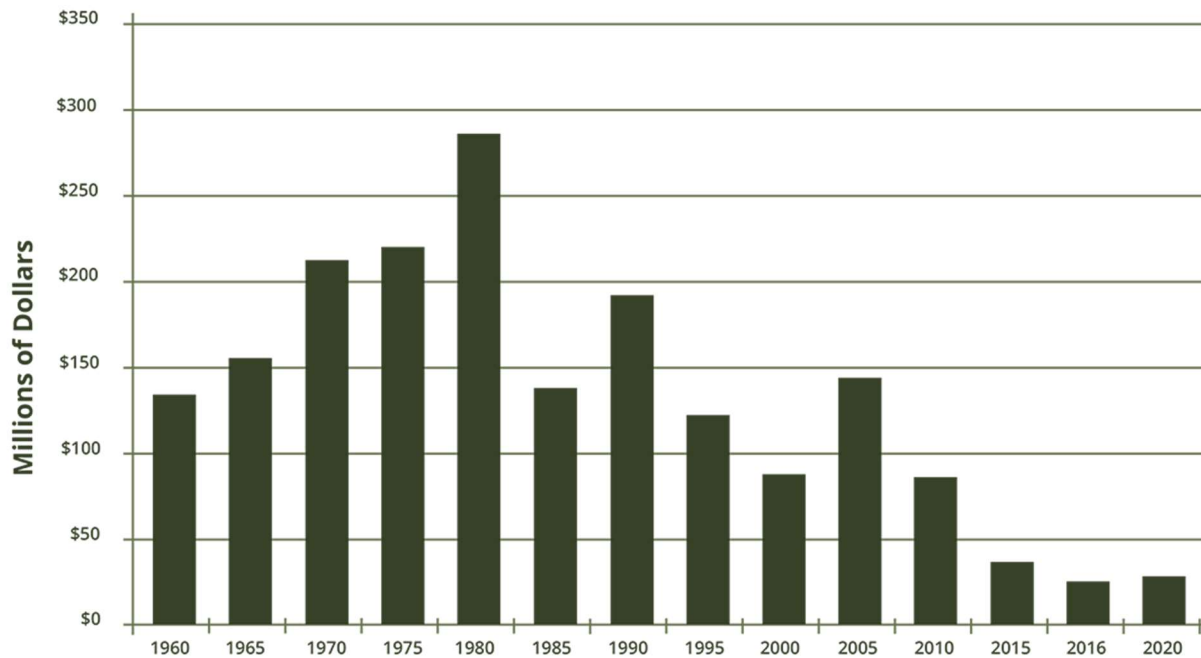
Western Oregon counties are facing a fiscal cliff, and are being forced to make draconian cuts to essential public services. Sheriff's deputies are being taken off the road, public and mental health facilities are closing, even libraries are being shuttered. Unless a long-term solution is found, rural Western Oregon communities will continue to lose both public- and private-sector jobs, in areas that already have high levels of unemployment and poverty. And because many county-provided services are required to be provided under law, the state government may be responsible for funding and delivering these services in the near future. With the State of Oregon already facing a significant budget deficit, the Legislature can ill afford to fund these programs that counties should be providing. We need our congressional delegation to act.

Why should the Oregon Legislature support this resolution and call for congressional action?

Oregon needs a long-term solution that protects the O&C Counties and rural communities, one that provides stable revenues to maintain public services and provides a reliable wood supply to sustain Oregon's forest sector. It's a myth that logging on federal lands would have to be increased to unsustainable levels to restore the rural economy and reverse damaging cuts to local services. Higher levels of harvest can be achieved on our federal lands while still providing for recovery of endangered species, providing clean water and fish habitats, landscape resiliency and a wide range of recreational opportunities and increased carbon storage. Forests are Oregon's most abundant and renewable natural resource, and responsibly managing them is a big part of the solution for Counties and rural communities.

O & C Payments to Counties, Historic and Projected

Constant Value Dollars



Payments for 1995-2015 were safety-net payments in lieu of shared timber receipts

Payments projected for 2020 are BLM's estimate with full implementation of its 2016 resource management plan

SHARED STATE-COUNTY SERVICES

SERVING THE CITIZENS OF OREGON

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	PUBLIC SAFETY	NATURAL RESOURCES & RECREATION	TRANSPORTATION, LAND USE & ECONOMIC DEV.	OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICES
Child Protection Housing Mental Health Hospital Aging/Senior Services Alcohol/Drug Treatment Alcohol/Drug Prevention Children & Families Svcs. Dev. Disabled Services Mental Health Services Oregon Health Plan Svcs. Veterans Services Public Health Services Environmental Health Housing Services Medical Examiner Emergency Planning & Response Solid Waste Management Recycling Programs	Appellate Court State Police State Prison Attorney General Trail Courts District Attorney 911/Emerg. Communications Emergency Management Homeland Security Community Corrections Court Security Juvenile Services Marine Patrol Drug Courts County Law Library Sheriff Patrol Animal Control Justice Courts Search & Rescue County Jail	State Parks State Lands Water Regulation Wildlife Regulation County Forest Trust Lands/ State Forest Management Habitat Restoration Wildlife/Predator Control Federal Land Policy Noxious Weed Control Watermaster County Forest Management County Parks Vector Control Soil & Water Conservation	State Highways State Fair Land Use Planning & Coord. Land Use Permitting Highway & Road System Senior & Disabled Trans. Energy Development Engineering Building Permits & Inspection Economic Development County Fair Infrastructure Development Surveying County Transportation System	Administrative Services Assessment & Taxation PERS Employee/Labor Relations Elections Extension Service Telecommunications Administrative Services Procurement Recording Public Documents County Library County Museums County Service Districts

State-Provided Services
 State/County-Shared Services
 County Provided Services
 Directly supports schools/education