

SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS

SUPPORTING CRITICAL SERVICES IN FOREST COUNTIES

U.S. COUNTIES AND SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS (SRS)

SRS PAYMENT,
 FY 2019 RECEIPTS YEAR:

\$249.1 M

PROJECTED 25% FUND PAYMENT,
 FY 2017 RECEIPTS YEAR:

\$79.8 M

PROJECTED FY 2017 25% FUND
 PAYMENT VS. FY 2019 SRS:

-68.0%

PERCENT OF COUNTIES WITH
 U.S. FOREST SERVICE LAND:

24.0%

SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination (SRS) Act was enacted in 2000 to compensate for steep reductions in revenues from timber harvests, which resulted from national policies that substantially diminished revenue-generating activities within federal forests. For FY 2019, the SRS program provided \$249 million for roads and schools and other critical services in 656 mostly rural counties, parishes and boroughs across the United States. The last authorization for SRS expired on September 30, 2018.

OUR ASK

Without SRS, forest counties nationwide face dramatic budgetary shortfalls. Counties urge Congress to renew its long-standing commitment to forest counties by increasing revenue sharing through active forest management and extending SRS as critical transitional funding.

Notes: The receipts year reflects when U.S. Forest Service (USFS) collects revenues from national forest lands. Without the SRS Act reauthorization, states revert to the Payments to States Act of 1908 as amended, receiving a 25 percent payment from national forest receipts. USFS estimates FY 2017 county 25 percent payments based on county shares of the national forest receipts. These estimates reflect the application of a 6.8 percent sequester to the state payments.

Sources: NACo analysis of data from the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management and Headwaters Economics analysis of the U.S. Geological Survey, Protected Areas Database.

SRS PAYMENTS ARE CRITICAL FOR SERVICES INCLUDING:



TRANSPORTATION
 INFRASTRUCTURE



SCHOOLS



FOREST
 MANAGEMENT



ECOSYSTEM
 PROTECTION



PROTECTION
 FROM WILDFIRE



SEARCH AND
 RESCUE



EMERGENCY
 SERVICES