

FACTS ABOUT
MISSOURI COUN-
TIES AND
SCHOOLS

- Missouri School Districts and Counties receive approximately \$5 million in annual funding from SRSCA
- 29 rural counties and over 128 public schools in Missouri receive annual funding from SRSCA
- Reauthorization of SRSCA is a priority for rural communities

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SRSCA...

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The Reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools & Community Self-Determination Act (*County Payments*)

THE PARTNERSHIP FOR RURAL
AMERICA CAMPAIGN

2010

Overview of the Secure Rural Schools & Community Self-Determination Act (SRSCA)

The Secure Rural Schools & Community Self-Determination Act is a contract providing assistance to rural counties and school districts affected by the decline in revenue from timber harvests on federal lands.

Historically, rural counties have relied on a share of receipts from timber harvests to supplement local funding for education

services and roads. The steep decline in federal timber sales decreased the revenues that rural counties and school districts received from these timber sales.

In response, Congress passed the "Secure Rural Schools & Community Self-Determination Act" to stabilize the payments to counties and to compensate for lost revenues.

In 2010, SRSCA will provide approximately \$405 million in funding to 729 rural counties and parishes across the United States.

Reauthorization of SRSCA is critical for resource constrained rural Missouri counties, schools and communities.



Greer Spring
Mark Twain National Forest

SRSCA Funding to Missouri

- In 2008, Missouri school districts and counties received \$5.9 million in funding from SRSCA
- From 2008 to 2011, rural Missouri is projected to receive \$17.5 million in SRSCA Funding
- SRSCA funding to Missouri will decline by 78% from \$5.1 million in 2008 to \$1.1 million in 2012—a loss of almost \$4 million



About the Partnership for Rural America Campaign

Take an Active Role Now: Join the SRSCA Reauthorization Effort in Missouri

Missouri Counties affected by the Act should take a leading role in the reauthorization Campaign.

Participate in the Campaign and the grass roots efforts by becoming a member of a Regional Coalition Action Team.

Sign up on our website or contact: Joel Yelverton, Marc Kelley, or Carolyn Wasem at (877) 778-7252.

Our Goal:

To renew the contract between the Federal government and rural communities through a long-term (ten-year) reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (County Revenue Sharing Programs).

Our Purpose:

The purpose of the Partnership for Rural America is to promote the economic and social health of rural America by actively building a broad-based partnership to support the long-term reauthorization and appropriation of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act.

The Partnership for Rural America Campaign provides interactive maps of state and county level SRSCS payments on our website.

Link to our website to find additional information on the history of SRSCA and additional information about funding for your county or state, or **sign up to be a volunteer to support our activities on behalf of Missouri.**

<http://www.partnershipforruralamerica.org>

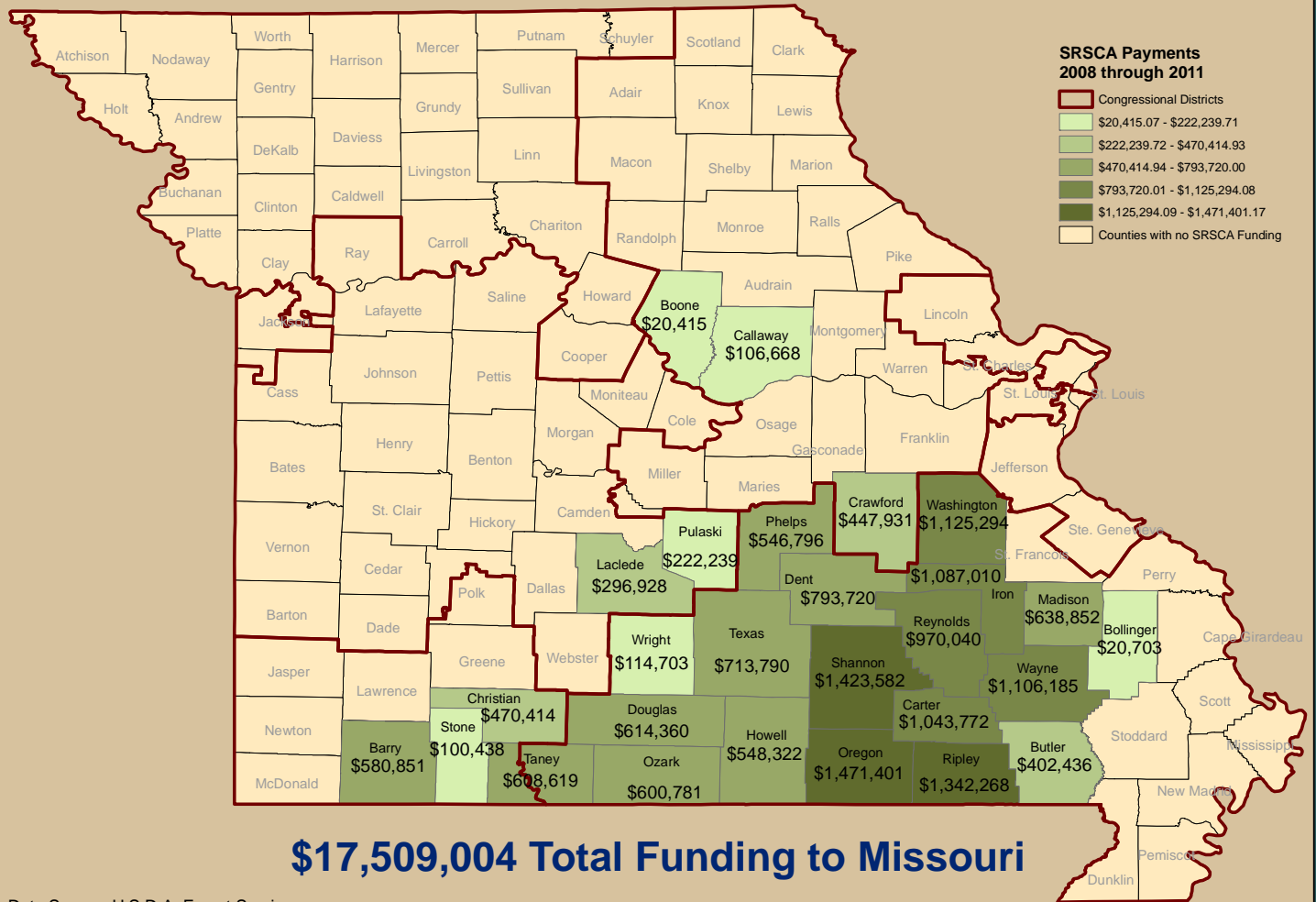
Our Partnership with the National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition

A nationwide Partnership for Rural America Campaign was initiated by the National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition in 2009. The Partnership for Rural America Campaign works together with the National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition to provide support for the reauthorization of funding for SRSCA. The mission of the National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition is to actively initiate, coordinate, and monitor activities regarding the multiple use management of public and private lands that affect their health, productivity, and sustainability; these activities also impact the economic and social vitality of forest and rural county communities, families, schools, and local governments.

Activities of the National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition may include, but are not limited to:

- Monitoring and supporting full implementation of the counties and schools safety net legislation. Actively engaging with those activities which support and enhance the implementation of the legislation.
- Monitoring and engaging in development of policy, regulations, and legislation.
- Initiating and coordinating communications, media outreach, education, and public relations programs.
- Collaborating with other organizations in monitoring and supporting key legislation.

Secure Rural Schools & Community Self-Determination Act Total Funding to Counties 2008 through 2011



Data Source: U.S.D.A. Forest Service

SRSCA Payments to Missouri 2008 through 2012 by County

County	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	Total 2008 - 2011	FY 2012 Estimated	Decrease 2008 compared to 2012
Barry	\$168,901	\$152,011	\$136,810	\$123,129	\$580,852	\$40,901	-\$128,000
Bollinger	\$6,020	\$5,418	\$4,876	\$4,389	\$20,704	\$1,220	-\$4,800
Boone	\$5,936	\$5,343	\$4,808	\$4,328	\$20,415	\$3,070	-\$2,866
Butler	\$117,021	\$105,319	\$94,787	\$85,309	\$402,437	\$35,902	-\$81,119
Callaway	\$31,017	\$27,916	\$25,124	\$22,612	\$106,669	\$9,195	-\$21,822
Carter	\$303,511	\$273,159	\$245,844	\$221,259	\$1,043,773	\$67,191	-\$236,320
Christian	\$136,788	\$123,109	\$110,799	\$99,719	\$470,415	\$38,653	-\$98,135
Crawford	\$130,251	\$117,226	\$105,503	\$94,953	\$447,932	\$37,102	-\$93,149
Dent	\$230,800	\$207,720	\$186,948	\$168,253	\$793,720	\$53,903	-\$176,897
Douglas	\$178,645	\$160,781	\$144,703	\$130,232	\$614,361	\$30,349	-\$148,296
Howell	\$159,442	\$143,498	\$129,148	\$116,233	\$548,322	\$37,290	-\$122,152
Iron	\$316,083	\$284,475	\$256,028	\$230,425	\$1,087,011	\$70,921	-\$245,162
Laclede	\$86,341	\$77,707	\$69,937	\$62,943	\$296,928	\$22,613	-\$63,728
Madison	\$185,767	\$167,190	\$150,471	\$135,424	\$638,852	\$38,013	-\$147,754
Oregon	\$427,857	\$385,072	\$346,564	\$311,908	\$1,471,401	\$78,295	-\$349,562
Ozark	\$174,697	\$157,227	\$141,504	\$127,354	\$600,781	\$28,666	-\$146,031
Phelps	\$158,999	\$143,099	\$128,789	\$115,910	\$546,796	\$48,452	-\$110,547
Pulaski	\$64,623	\$58,161	\$52,345	\$47,110	\$222,240	\$29,004	-\$35,619
Reynolds	\$282,070	\$253,863	\$228,477	\$205,629	\$970,040	\$66,643	-\$215,427
Ripley	\$390,308	\$351,277	\$316,149	\$284,534	\$1,342,268	\$72,216	-\$318,092
Shannon	\$413,952	\$372,557	\$335,301	\$301,771	\$1,423,582	\$22,277	-\$391,675
Stone	\$29,206	\$26,285	\$23,657	\$21,291	\$100,438	\$7,660	-\$21,546
St.Francois	\$2,372	\$2,135	\$1,921	\$1,729	\$8,157	\$499	-\$1,873
St.Genevieve	\$23,937	\$21,543	\$19,389	\$17,450	\$82,318	\$47,277	\$23,340
Taney	\$176,976	\$159,278	\$143,350	\$129,015	\$608,619	\$48,809	-\$128,167
Texas	\$207,557	\$186,802	\$168,122	\$151,309	\$713,790	\$36,678	-\$170,879
Washington	\$327,215	\$294,494	\$265,045	\$238,540	\$1,125,294	\$60,993	-\$266,222
Wayne	\$321,659	\$289,493	\$260,544	\$234,489	\$1,106,186	\$65,501	-\$256,158
Wright	\$33,354	\$30,018	\$27,016	\$24,315	\$114,703	\$5,307	-\$28,047
Total	\$5,091,305	\$4,582,176	\$4,123,959	\$3,711,562	\$17,509,004	\$1,104,600	-\$3,986,705

The History of SRSCA Legislation



Ball Pond—Mark Twain National Forest

President Teddy Roosevelt developed and implemented the policy of conserving lands for multi-use. He also understood the economic challenges that this placed

on rural communities. To address this challenge, he established a revenue sharing plan specifying 25% of all revenues from National Forests would be returned to forested counties. This law worked for nearly a century. However, in the 1980s national resource policies substantially diminished the revenue-generating activity in the forests. In 2000 the *Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act* (P.L. 106-393) was enacted. The goal of the Act was to provide assistance to rural counties and schools affected by declining revenues from timber harvests on federal lands.

“These funds are used for schools and roads, to create employment opportunities, to maintain current infrastructure, and to improve the health of watershed and ecosystems” (USDA Forest Service Release No. 0814, October 8, 2008).

On October 3, 2008, the *Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act* (P.L. 110-343) was enacted; it reauthorized and amended SRSCA 2000 to continue, on a sliding payment scale, through 2011.

Efforts to assure that SRSCA is reauthorized are underway

Reauthorization of SRSCA

In Missouri, rural counties must fund education and maintain roads on a tax base that is constrained by high child poverty rates, a limited business tax base, and a property tax base that is restricted by the tax-exempt status of national forest land within their boundaries. Secure, reliable payments from SRSCA are an essential source of revenues that enable rural counties to meet their financial obligations.

The *Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act* will expire in 2011. The reauthorization of SRSCA will ensure that students receive essential educational services and that rural communities have funding for roads, conservation projects, Search and Rescue missions, (a safety struc-

ture for residents and visitors) and fire prevention programs. Funding from SRSCA also provides necessary revenue to cash-strapped rural school districts. It is important for Congress to commit the resources necessary to ensure that rural communities do not have to make further cuts to children’s education or further reduce vital services.

In 2009, counties and school districts began seeking support for the reauthorization of SRSCA to secure this important source of revenue for all rural counties and school districts.



5-Layer Falls
Mark Twain National Forest

A Picture of Rural School Districts that Receive SRSCA Funding

There were 140,182 children enrolled in 128 Missouri schools in the counties that received SRSCA funding in 2009; the poverty rate among these children was 45.9% (Source; Missouri Department of Education *Free and Reduced Lunch Statistics*). Schools in Barry County (Congressional District 7) had a poverty rate of 53.9%, however, Shell Knob School had a poverty among students of 73.5% and Exeter School had a poverty rate of 72.3%. In 2008, Barry County received \$168,901 in SRSCA payments, if SRSCA is not reauthorized these payments will drop to \$40,901 in 2012. In 2008, the poverty rate among children enrolled in schools in Ripley County was 63.7% (Congressional District 8); in 2008, Ripley County received \$309,308 in SRSCA funding, in 2012 this amount will drop to \$72,216. The poverty rate among students enrolled in the Gasconade School in Laclede County was 57.3% (Congressional District 4). From 2008 through 2011, Laclede County will receive \$296,928 in SRSCA receipts; in 2012, this amount will drop to \$22,613.

The loss of SRSCA funding will have serious consequences for rural school districts. Children in rural Missouri counties need these financial resources to better compete with other students. These resources purchase books and supplies. A loss of revenues will make it difficult for schools in rural communities to attract and keep talented teachers.



SRSCA Value Added through Resource Advisory Committees (RACs)

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act authorized the establishment of Resource Advisory Committees (RACs) as a mechanism for local community collaboration with federal land managers in recommending Title II resource-benefit projects on federal lands. In 2008, **\$118,085** of SRSCA funding was allocated to Resource Advisory Committee activities in Missouri to implement forest and ecosystem health projects ranging from forest thinning to road construction projects; these activities provide jobs and contribute to local economies.

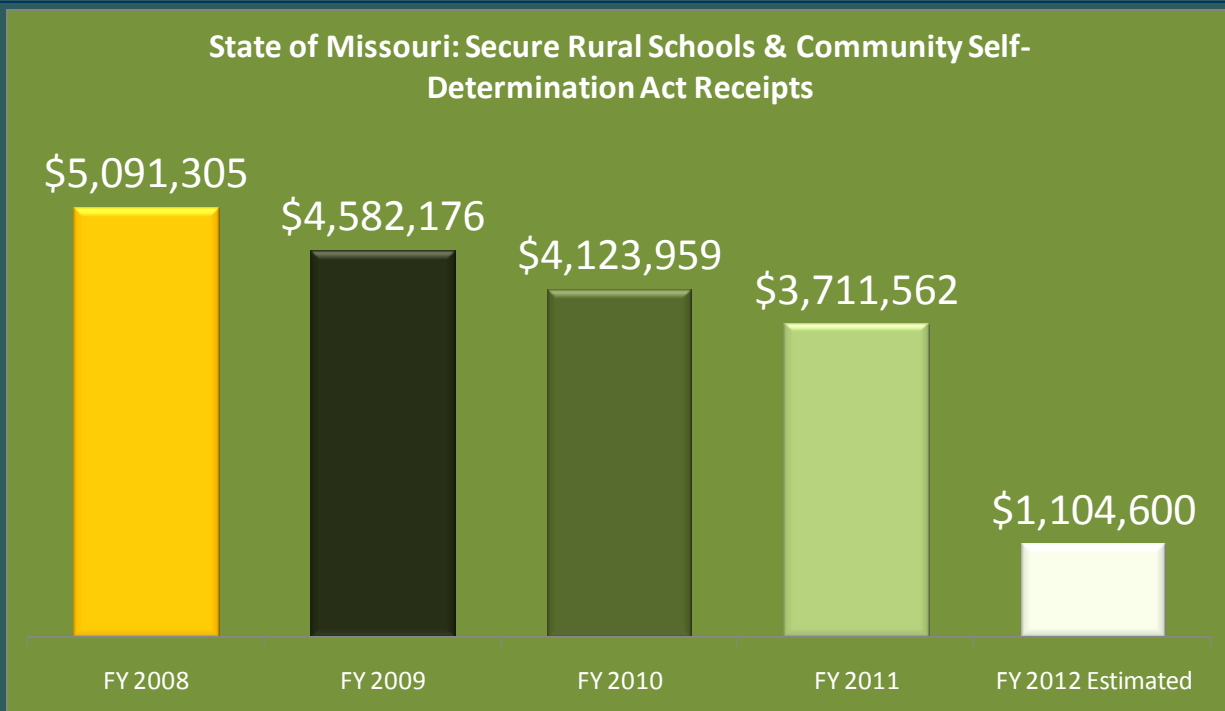
The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act was enacted to respond to the crisis that developed in the 1980s when national policy and regulation restricted revenue generating activities on federal forest lands. SRSCA provides these resources to Missouri:

Title I - Payments to 29 counties for road infrastructure and the education of more than 140,000 Missouri school children. In 2008 Missouri received \$ 4,318,076 in Title I funding.

Title II - Payments to counties for forest restoration projects. In 2008, Missouri received \$118,085 to fund Resource Advisory Committee approved projects.

Title III - Payments to counties for reimbursement of Search and Rescue efforts carried out on Federal Lands. In 2008, Missouri received \$ 655,144 in Title III Funding.

Total Payments to Missouri in 2008: **\$ 5,091,305**



Ozark Fall on Current River

Partnership for Rural America Campaign

113 Green Oak Cove ~ Clinton, MS 39056

Joel Yelverton or Marc Kelley Phone: (877) 778-7252

<http://www.partnershipforruralamerica.org>

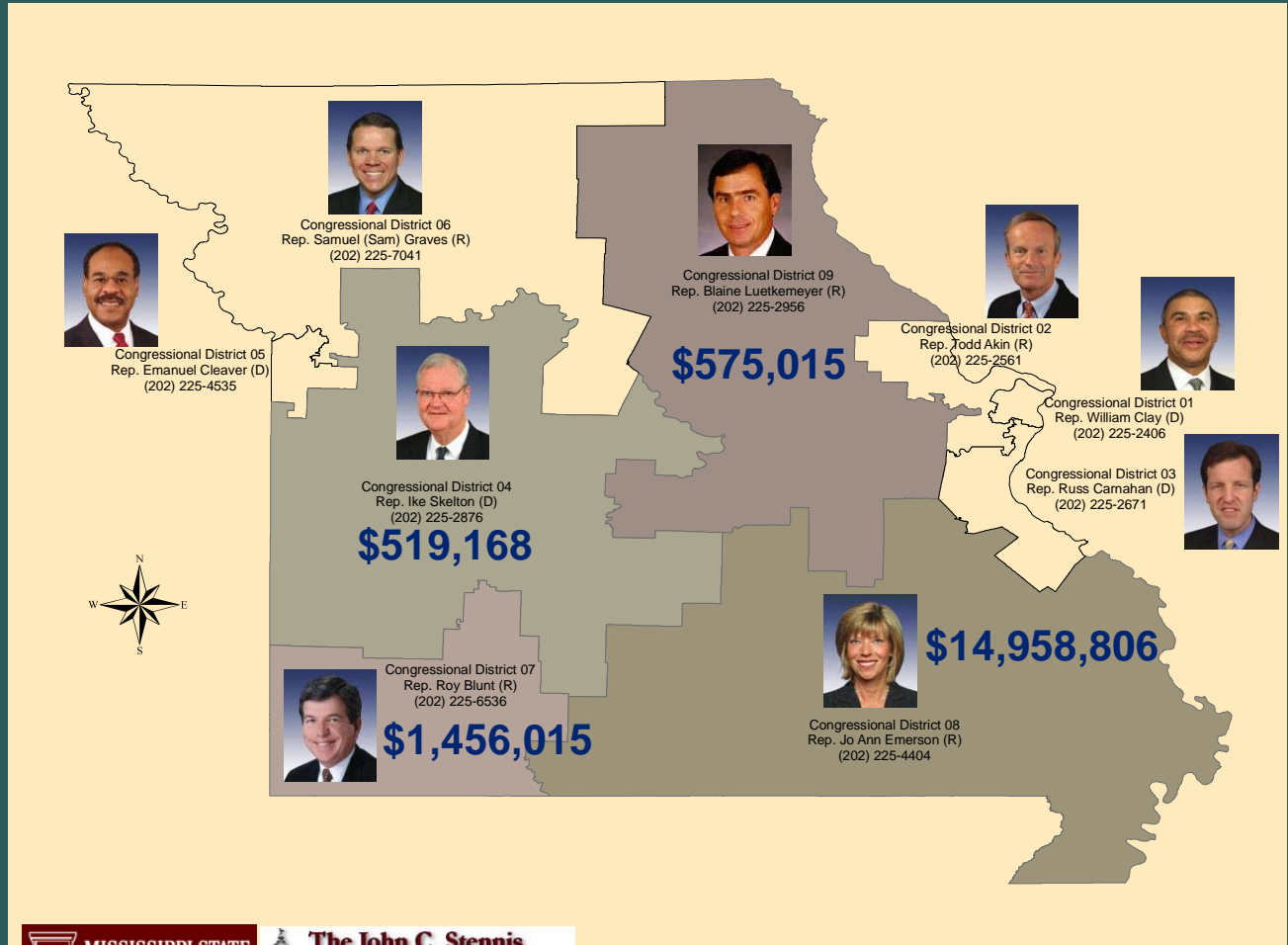
Total 2008—2011 SRSCA Payments to Missouri: \$9,837,961

Secure Rural Schools & Community Self-Determination Act

Funding to Rural Missouri Counties and School Districts 2008—2011



Total Funding to Missouri: \$17,509,004



- Missouri received \$5,091,305 in 2008
- This number will fall to \$1,104,600 in 2012
- This is a loss of almost \$4 million



Senator Claire McCaskill (D)
 717 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
 Washington, DC 20510
 Office: (202) 224-6154
 Fax: (202) 228-6326



Senator Kit Bond (R)
 274 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
 Washington, DC 20510
 Office: (202) 224-5721
 Fax: (202) 224-8149

TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE NOW

Partnership for Rural America Campaign

113 Green Oak Cove ~ Clinton, MS 39056

Joel Yelverton or Marc Kelley Phone: (877) 778-7252

<http://www.partnershipforruralamerica.org>