BLM Distributes Final Payments to Counties

Portland, Ore. – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announced today that it has issued payment to 18 counties in western Oregon eligible under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act extension, (Public Law 110-343). The amount paid to the Oregon & California (O&C) counties was $40,037,160.

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act was reauthorized as part of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 signed into law in October 2008 (Public Law 110-343). The reauthorized act provides declining payments to 18 westside Oregon Counties from Fiscal Year 2008 through 2011. Eligible counties in Oregon and several other "transition" states received declining payments from Fiscal Years 2008 to 2010 based upon their Fiscal Year 2006 payments.

For Fiscal Year 2011 the counties will receive payments based on a new formula detailed in the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008. The reauthorized Act provided transition payments to the O&C counties through Fiscal Year 2010 and established another formula for calculating O&C county payments for Fiscal Year 2011.

Over the years, Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act projects have provided trail maintenance, culvert replacement or removal, soil improvement, vegetation/density management, wildfire hazard reduction, stream channel enhancement, control of noxious and exotic weeds, and opportunities for youth training and employment.

Additional information about the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act is available online at:

http://www.blm.gov/or/rac/ctypaypayments.php

About the BLM: The BLM manages 245 million acres of public land known as the National System of Public Lands. The lands are primarily located in 12 Western states, including 75 million acres in Alaska. With a budget of about $1 billion, the bureau also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

###