

WASHINGTON, D.C.- Representative Peter DeFazio (D-Springfield) today released draft maps forecasting the division of the O&C lands under the bipartisan O&C Trust, Conservation, and Jobs Proposal (OCTCJA). In February, DeFazio, and Representatives Greg Walden (R-Hood River) and Kurt Schrader (D-Canby) publicly released a balanced, long-term O&C plan that would provide revenue to struggling rural Oregon communities, create jobs, and provide important protections for the environment.

The OCTCJA would divide the O&C lands roughly in half. Younger, previously managed timber stands would be managed by a public and diverse board of Oregonians appointed by the governor. Younger stands, known as “O&C Trust Lands” are depicted in yellow in the maps.

The OCTCJA transfers the remaining land, including more than 1 million acres of mature and old growth forests, from the Bureau of Land Management to the Forest Service and provides the first ever legislative protection for old growth on O&C Lands. Forest stands transferred to the Forest Service are depicted in green in the maps.

The newly released draft maps gives Oregonians a ground level look at what lands would be managed for sustainable-yield timber production and what land would be set aside for conservation.

“The maps provide Oregonians with a graphic representation of the bipartisan O&C proposal,” said DeFazio. “While we continue to make improvements to these draft maps, they will help inform those interested in finding a long-term solution to our forest management and rural community challenges. As I have said from the beginning of this process, I continue to encourage Oregonians to read the discussion draft, take a look at the recently released maps, and submit meaningful comments to my website at www.defazio.house.gov.”

DeFazio, Walden, and Schrader worked with stakeholders to reach a bipartisan agreement on a long-term plan for the O&C counties. Since then, they’ve been working with the House Resources Committee to integrate the provisions of their proposal into committee legislation.

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