



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

February 22, 2000

### **H.R. 1444**

### **Irrigation Mitigation and Restoration Partnership Act of 1999**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
on February 10, 2000*

#### **SUMMARY**

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1444 would cost \$8 million in fiscal year 2001 and a total of \$95 million through fiscal year 2005. An additional \$30 million would be spent in years after 2005. H.R. 1444 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. The legislation contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA). State and local governments might incur some costs as a result of the bill's enactment, but those costs would be voluntary.

H.R. 1444 would establish the irrigation mitigation and restoration partnership program within the Department of the Interior. The new program would support projects to mitigate adverse impacts on fisheries in Oregon, Washington, Montana, and Idaho that are caused by the construction and operation of irrigation facilities controlled by local governments. The program would finance the construction and operation of fish ladders, fish screens, and other facilities that decrease fish mortality from the operation of irrigation and other water diversion systems. For this purpose, H.R. 1444 would authorize the appropriation of \$25 million annually over the 2001-2005 period. Such amounts would finance 100 percent of the costs of developing and implementing projects on federal land and 35 percent of such costs on nonfederal land. Nonfederal participants in each project would be responsible for all costs of operating and maintaining the constructed facilities.

#### **ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 1444 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment). CBO assumes that the entire amounts authorized will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Outlays are based on spending patterns for similar programs of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>					
Authorization Level	25	25	25	25	25
Estimated Outlays	8	16	21	25	25

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**PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS:** None.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

H.R. 1444 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. The bill would require nonfederal participants in the funded projects to pay 35 percent of development and implementation costs and all operating and maintenance costs. Participation by state and local governments would be voluntary.

**PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE**

On September 8, 1999, CBO submitted a cost estimate for H.R. 1444 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on August 4, 1999. The costs of the two versions of the bill are identical.

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