



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 31, 2003

S. 677

Black Canyon of the Gunnison Boundary Revision Act of 2003

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on October 29, 2003

CBO estimates that implementing S. 677 would not significantly affect the federal budget. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues. S. 677 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 677 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to revise the boundaries of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park in Colorado to include three parcels of privately owned land. The Secretary would exchange federal lands in order to acquire two of those parcels. According to the Department of the Interior (DOI), the federal lands to be exchanged currently generate no significant receipts and are not expected to do so in the near future; hence, CBO estimates that exchanging them would not significantly affect the federal budget. The Secretary would acquire, by purchase or donation, a conservation easement on the third parcel of land. According to DOI, sufficient funding already has been appropriated for that purpose; thus, CBO estimates that completing the transaction would not significantly increase federal spending.

S. 677 also would authorize the Secretary to expand the boundaries of the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area to include 7,100 acres of federal lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Based on information from BLM, we estimate that adding those lands to the conservation area would not affect offsetting receipts or the agency's costs to manage them.

On June 27, 2003, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 677 as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on June 25, 2003. The two versions of the legislation are identical, as are the CBO cost estimates.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Deborah Reis and Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.