



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

October 6, 2005

**H.R. 539
Caribbean National Forest Act of 2005**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on September 28, 2005*

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 539 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues. H.R. 539 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.

H.R. 539 would designate as wilderness approximately 10,000 acres of land within the Caribbean National Forest/Luquillo Experimental Forest, located in Puerto Rico. Based on information from the Forest Service, CBO estimates that designating that area as wilderness would not significantly affect the agency's costs to manage it. We also estimate that the proposed designation would have no impact on offsetting receipts from programs to develop federally owned natural resources.

On May 19, 2005, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 539 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on May 18, 2005. The two versions of the legislation are identical, and our cost estimates are the same.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.