



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

May 11, 1999

**H.R. 359**

**Emigrant Wilderness Preservation Act of 1999**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on May 5, 1999*

CBO estimates that enacting this bill would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 359 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. State and local governments might incur some costs as a result of the bill's enactment, but these costs would be voluntary.

H.R. 359 would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into a cooperative agreement with a nonfederal entity to retain, maintain, and operate at private expense 18 concrete dams and weirs in the Emigrant Wilderness within the Stanislaus National Forest, California. According to the Forest Service, under a management decision made in 1998 the Forest Service will continue to maintain 8 of the 18 structures and allow the others to deteriorate without repair. Under H.R. 359, all 18 structures would be maintained at private expense. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$20,000 to cover the costs of environmental reviews. Based on information from the Forest Service, CBO estimates that the total cost to conduct such environmental analyses could exceed the amount authorized. Nevertheless, we estimate that implementing the bill would cost less than \$50,000 over the 2000-2004 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary sums.

The CBO contact for this estimate is Victoria Heid Hall. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.