



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 8, 2014

S. 354

Oregon Caves Revitalization Act of 2013

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources
on July 30, 2014*

SUMMARY

S. 354 would authorize the transfer of 4,070 acres of land from the U.S. Forest Service to the National Park Service (NPS) to expand the boundaries of the Oregon Caves National Monument. The legislation also would require the Secretary of the Interior to accept the donation of certain grazing permits and to prohibit future grazing on land covered by those permits. Finally, the act would designate the River Styx as a scenic river and require the Secretary to conduct additional studies regarding the designation of other waterways in Oregon as scenic rivers.

Based on information from the affected agencies and assuming the availability of appropriated funds, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost about \$1 million. Enacting S. 354 would increase direct spending by reducing offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending) from grazing fees; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures apply. However, CBO estimates that any reduction in those receipts would be negligible for each year. Enacting the legislation would not affect revenues.

S. 354 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

CBO estimates that implementing S. 354 would cost \$1 million over the 2015-2019 period, subject to the availability of appropriated funds. In addition, enacting the legislation would probably result in a small loss of offsetting receipts from grazing fees.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

S. 354 would authorize the Forest Service to transfer 4,070 acres of land to the NPS to expand the boundaries of the Oregon Caves National Monument. Because lands that would be exchanged under the act are already administered by a federal agency, CBO expects that federal costs to manage the affected lands would not change significantly. The act also would require the Secretary of the Interior to designate the River Styx as a scenic river and to study the impact of designating certain other waterways in Oregon as scenic rivers. Based on information from the NPS, CBO estimates that carrying out those activities would cost about \$1 million over the 2015-2019 period. CBO estimates that the NPS would spend about \$350,000 to develop a management plan for the River Styx and about \$350,000 to study the designation of additional rivers in the state as scenic rivers.

The legislation also would require the Secretary of the Interior to accept donations of certain grazing permits from current permit holders. Under the act, donated permits would be terminated and future grazing on land covered by those permits would be prohibited. Based on information from the affected agencies, CBO expects that those permits would be donated if the legislation is enacted. CBO estimates that enacting S. 354 would have a minimal impact on offsetting receipts from grazing fees over the 2015-2024 period.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS

The Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 establishes budget-reporting and enforcement procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or revenues. S. 354 would reduce offsetting receipts (from grazing fees), thus increasing direct spending. However, CBO estimates that those effects would be negligible.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 354 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On April 12, 2013, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 354 as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on March 14, 2013. The two versions of the legislation are similar, and the CBO cost estimates are the same.

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