



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 28, 2007

### **H.R. 161**

### **Minidoka National Historic Site Act**

*As reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on June 26, 2007*

#### **SUMMARY**

H.R. 161 would redesignate the Minidoka Internment National Monument as the Minidoka National Historic Site and would expand the boundaries of the park unit to include additional properties in Idaho and in Washington. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 161 would cost \$7 million over the 2008-2012 period. We estimate that implementing title III, which would provide for the sale of 394 acres of federal land in Idaho, would increase offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending) by less than \$200,000 in fiscal year 2008. Enacting the bill would not affect revenues.

H.R. 161 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. The city of Bainbridge Island would benefit from the federal assistance authorized by this legislation, and any costs incurred by the city or by other public agencies to matches those federal funds would be incurred voluntarily.

#### **ESTIMATED COSTS TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 161 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation would fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>					
Authorization Level	1	3	1	1	1
Estimated Outlays	1	1	2	2	1

## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R.161 will be enacted by the end of 2007. Based on information provided by the affected agencies and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts for each fiscal year, we estimate that implementing the legislation would cost the federal government about \$7 million over the 2008-2012 period and would increase offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending) by less than \$200,000 in fiscal year 2008.

H.R. 161 would facilitate the implementation of several recommendations made in the general management plan for the Minidoka Internment National Monument. Specifically, the act would:

- Redesignate the Minidoka Internment National Monument as the Minidoka National Historic Site (MNHS),
- Authorize the National Park Service (NPS) to acquire a 128-acre property known as the Hermann homestead for the MNHS,
- Expand the MNHS boundary to include three parcels of land administered by other federal land management agencies, and
- Designate the Midoto Nai Yoni memorial on Bainbridge Island as part of the MNHS and finalize the disposition of various land-use plans, including conveyances of federal property adjacent to the MNHS to local governments.

## **Spending Subject to Appropriation**

**Upfront Costs.** CBO estimates that total upfront costs to implement H.R. 161 would be nearly \$3 million over the next five years.

Title I would expand the boundaries of Minidoka to include the Nidoto Nai Yoni memorial, an eight-acre site on Bainbridge Island, Washington. Under the legislation, the memorial would be administered by the National Park Service as part of the Minidoka unit but would continue to be owned and operated by the city of Bainbridge Island. CBO estimates that the NPS would spend about \$500,000 over the next year or two to finance about half of the cost of constructing interpretive facilities at the Bainbridge Island site.

CBO estimates that implementing title II would cost about \$2 million over the next five years. This title would redesignate the national monument as a national historic site and would authorize the NPS to add the Hermann homestead to the park. This title also would transfer administrative jurisdiction to the NPS of an 80-acre parcel of land from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and two parcels totaling 10 acres from the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), all for incorporation into the MNHS. CBO estimates that the NPS would spend \$250,000 in fiscal year 2008 to purchase the Hermann homestead. We estimate that developing that property, including renovating several historic structures, would cost nearly \$2 million over the 2009-2012 period. Costs to develop the BLM property to be transferred to the park would be less than \$50,000. Based on the current management plan, CBO expects that the cost of developing the BOR parcels for visitor use (an estimated \$1.5 million) will be incurred even in the absence of the legislation because the BOR property probably will be transferred to the NPS (and developed) under administrative authority.

The cost to implement title III would be minimal. This title would direct BOR to dispose of more than 400 acres of land in Idaho, including 5 acres to the city of Gooding, 40 acres to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and an estimated 394 acres to the American Falls Reservoir District. Title III also would revoke past legal actions that withdrew about 6,900 acres of federal land in the state from disposition under public mining and other land-use laws. After that revocation, the land (which was withdrawn for a dam that was never constructed) would be managed as open space by BLM. Finally, title III would direct BOR to provide a grant of \$53,000 to the district in compensation for some facilities that it has lost the use of as a result of ongoing park development (under existing law) at Minidoka. (This amount has already been appropriated to the NPS and transferred to BOR for payment to the district in the near future.)

**Ongoing Costs.** CBO estimates that once all property to be added to the Minidoka National Historic Site, including the parcel on Bainbridge Island, has been acquired by the NPS, that the agency's annual operating costs would increase by nearly \$1 million beginning in 2009, including about \$200,000 annually for additional park staff and other operating costs related to the addition at Bainbridge Island. We estimate that additional costs to manage formerly withdrawn acreage released by title III would have no significant effect on annual spending by BLM.

## **Direct Spending**

Under title III, the 394-acre parcel to be conveyed to American Falls Irrigation District would be sold to the district at fair market value. Based on information provided by BOR, we estimate that this provision would increase offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending) by less than \$200,000 in 2008.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

H.R. 161 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. The city of Bainbridge Island would benefit from the federal assistance authorized by this legislation, and any costs incurred by the city or by other public agencies to matches those federal funds would be incurred voluntarily.

### **ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:**

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