



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

May 15, 2008

S. 783

**Jean Lafitte National Historical Park
and Preserve Boundary Adjustment Act of 2008**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on May 7, 2008*

S. 783 would expand by 8,000 acres the boundary of the Barataria Preserve Unit of the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve in Louisiana. The bill also would allow the National Park Service (NPS) to acquire land within the unit's boundaries by transfer from other federal agencies in addition to other methods such as purchase or donation.

Based on information provided by the NPS and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 783 would cost between \$1 million and \$9 million over the next several years, depending on how much private land is acquired for the unit and on the final appraised value of that property. We estimate that acquiring privately owned wetlands in the acquisition area would cost around \$1 million. Acquisition costs would increase by up to \$8 million if the NPS also purchases the 5,000-acre Fleming Plantation or some of the 86 acres of private uplands in the Bayou aux Carpes addition area. We estimate that costs to develop and manage most of the additional acreage would be minimal, unless the NPS acquires historic buildings associated with the Fleming Plantation. (In that case, the agency could incur significant additional costs to restore and maintain such structures.) Finally, we estimate that the NPS would need about \$200,000 annually to maintain upland areas near the plantation. Enacting S. 783 would have no effect on direct spending or revenues.

S. 783 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.

On March 9, 2007, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 162, the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve Boundary Adjustment Act of 2007, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on March 7, 2007. H.R. 162 and S. 783 are very similar, but the Senate version would add more acres to the park, including property containing historic structures. The CBO cost estimates reflect that difference.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.