



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE

July 6, 2000

**H.R. 4442**  
**National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on June 28, 2000*

H.R. 4442 would establish the National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Commission to prepare a plan to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Wildlife Refuge System in 2003. The commission also would host a conference on the system and assist with conference activities. This commission's members would include the director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), specified Members of Congress, and up to 10 others. They would receive travel expenses but no compensation for serving on the commission. The commission would be allowed to accept and use donations of money, property, or services. In addition, section 4 of the bill would require the Secretary of the Interior to prepare a long-term plan for priority operations, maintenance, and construction needs of the refuge system.

Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, and based on information provided by the USFWS, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 4442 would cost about \$0.9 million over the next four years. Most of this amount would be spent on activities of the National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Commission. Costs to prepare the study of priority needs required by section 4 are not expected to be significant.

Because H.R. 4442 would authorize the new commission to accept and spend donations, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. CBO estimates, however, that any new governmental receipts and resulting direct spending would be insignificant and largely offsetting. The bill 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.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.