



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 8, 2002

S. 1944

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area Boundary Revision Act of 2002

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on July 31, 2002*

CBO estimates that implementing S. 1944 would cost \$200,000, assuming the availability of appropriated funds. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 1944 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.

S. 1944 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to revise the boundaries of the Gunnison National Park in Colorado to include three parcels of privately owned land that would be acquired by the Secretary. The Secretary would exchange federal lands in order to acquire two of the parcels. According to the Department of the Interior (DOI), the federal lands to be exchanged currently generate no significant receipts and are not expected to do so in the near future; hence, CBO estimates that exchanging them would not significantly affect the federal budget. The Secretary would purchase a conservation easement on the third parcel at an estimated cost of \$500,000. According to DOI, \$300,000 has already been appropriated for that purpose; thus, we estimate that completing the transaction would cost \$200,000 in 2003, assuming the availability of appropriated funds.

S. 1944 also would authorize the Secretary to expand the boundaries of the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area to include 7,100 acres of federal lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Based on information from the BLM, we estimate that adding those lands to the conservation area would not affect offsetting receipts or the agency's costs to manage that land.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.