



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

June 2, 2004

H.R. 2909

Utah Test and Training Range Protection Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on May 19, 2004

H.R. 2909 would make several changes to current law that would affect federal land in the state of Utah. Specifically, the bill would require the Secretary of the Interior to develop, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, plans for managing federal land within the Utah Test and Training Range. In addition, the bill would establish the Cedar Mountain Wilderness on roughly 99,500 acres of federal land and release other land currently designated as a wilderness study area from that status. Finally, the bill would direct the Secretary of the Interior to select 640 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to be taken into trust on behalf of the Skull Valley Band of Goshutes.

Based on information from BLM, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 2909 would not significantly affect the federal budget. According to the agency, the land that would be affected by the bill currently does not generate any significant receipts, and it is unlikely to do so in the next 10 years. Hence, we estimate that altering the status of this land or changing management practices would not significantly affect offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending). We also estimate that any increased costs for planning and management activities would be less than \$500,000 annually. Enacting H.R. 2909 would not affect federal revenues.

H.R. 2909 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. Enacting this legislation would benefit the Skull Valley Band of Goshutes by providing them with additional land. It would limit the tribe's development opportunities on existing land, however, because it would bar rights-of-way across adjacent federal land. The bill would impose no other costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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