



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

February 24, 2005

S. 276

Wind Cave National Park Boundary Revision Act of 2005

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on February 16, 2005*

S. 276 would authorize the National Park Service (NPS) to acquire 5,675 acres of land for addition to the Wind Cave National Park in South Dakota. The additional acreage could be acquired by donation, purchase, exchange, or administrative transfer, if other federal property were acquired.

Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that it would cost the NPS \$9 million to implement S. 276 over the next five years. Of that amount, we estimate that about \$6 million would be spent in 2005 or 2006 to purchase 5,595 acres of privately owned land adjacent to the existing park boundary. During this period, we expect that the agency also would accept administrative jurisdiction over an additional 80 acres currently managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). (The transfer of the two nearby 40-acre BLM parcels would not have any significant impact on either agency's budget and would not affect any grazing activities currently authorized on those sites). CBO estimates that the NPS would spend another \$2 million during 2005 to protect and develop newly acquired lands for park use. Finally, we estimate that managing the added property would cost the NPS about \$200,000 a year beginning in 2005, assuming the availability of appropriated funds. This cost estimate is based on information provided by the NPS and by local taxing authorities.

Enacting S. 276 would not affect direct spending or revenues. 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 Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.