

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 26, 2007

H.R. 1528 New England National Scenic Trail Designation Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on October 10, 2007

H.R. 1528 would amend the National Trails System Act to designate approximately 220 miles of trail from Long Island Sound in Connecticut to the New Hampshire-Massachusetts border as a scenic trail in the National Trails System. The route would include portions of the existing Mattabesett, Metacomet, and Metacomet-Monadnock trails. There are no federal lands associated with the proposed route. The National Park Service (NPS) would administer the trail and coordinate the efforts of public and private entities on trail administration, planning, development, and maintenance. All activities would be carried out in accordance with the Trail Management Blueprint, prepared as part of the feasibility study for the trail.

Based on information provided by the NPS and assuming the availability of appropriated funds, CBO estimates that establishing and administering the proposed scenic trail would cost about \$2 million over the 2008-2012 period. Of this amount, we estimate that the NPS would spend about \$300,000 annually for administrative and maintenance costs, including additional personnel.

H.R. 1528 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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