



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 3, 2007

H.R. 50 **Multinational Species Conservation Funds** **Reauthorization Act of 2007**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on July 31, 2007*

SUMMARY

H.R. 50 would reauthorize appropriations for projects carried out under the African Elephant Conservation Act of 1988 and the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994. Specifically, the act would authorize appropriations through 2012 for such projects at the existing authorization level of up to \$15 million annually. The current authorization expires at the end of fiscal year 2007. The Secretary of the Interior uses this fund primarily to help finance research and conservation programs overseas.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 50 would result in additional spending of \$68 million over the 2008-2012 period. (An additional \$7 million would be spent after 2012.) Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 50 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 50 is shown in the following table. The cost of this legislation falls within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment). For this estimate, CBO assumes that the entire amounts authorized by the act would be appropriated for each fiscal year. Outlay estimates are based on recent spending patterns for this program.

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Spending Under Current Law for						
Multinational Species Conservation Funds						
Budget Authority	3	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	3	0	0	0	0	0
Proposed Changes						
Authorization Level	0	15	15	15	15	15
Estimated Outlays	0	9	14	15	15	15
Spending Under H.R. 50 for						
Multinational Species Conservation Funds						
Estimated Authorization Level	15	15	15	15	15	15
Estimated Outlays	15	9	14	15	15	15

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 50 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO COST ESTIMATE

On July 18, 2007, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 50 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on June 28, 2007. The two versions of the legislation are identical, as are the CBO cost estimates.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

Federal Costs: Deborah Reis and David Reynolds
 Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Leo Lex
 Impact on the Private Sector: Justin Hall

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

Peter H. Fontaine
 Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis