



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

May 15, 2008

S. 2379
Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument
Voluntary and Equitable Grazing Conflict Resolution Act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on May 7, 2008*

S. 2379 would create a program to reduce grazing within the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument in Oregon. In addition, the bill also would establish the Soda Mountain Wilderness on about 24,000 acres of land within the monument and authorize two land exchanges with nearby landowners. Based on information provided by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), CBO estimates that implementing S. 2379 would have no significant effect on federal spending and would not affect revenues.

The bill 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.

S. 2379 would direct BLM to accept donations of existing grazing leases on monument lands if the holders of those leases choose to donate them. The agency would then retire grazing allotments (or portions of allotments) on those areas. Also, BLM would convey to two private landowners around 40 acres of land within the monument in exchange for similar acreage and would retire the grazing lease that would be donated by one of the owners as a condition of exchange. Responsibility for the costs of the exchanges, such as appraisal fees, would be negotiated by the agency and the landowners.

CBO estimates that accepting donations of grazing leases under S. 2379 would have no significant effect on the federal budget. Currently, BLM earns offsetting receipts of less than \$5,000 annually on all of the grazing leases that might be terminated under the bill. No other receipts are earned on the federal land to be exchanged under the bill, and the federal share of costs—if any—related to the two exchanges would be minimal.

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