



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

March 1, 2010

**H.R. 1769
Alpine Lakes Wilderness Additions
and Pratt and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Rivers Protection Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources
on February 24, 2010*

H.R. 1769 would add more than 22,000 acres of public land in the state of Washington to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. The bill also would designate about 27 miles of waterways in the area as wild or scenic rivers. Based on information provided by the Forest Service, which administers most of the affected land, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1769 would have no significant effect on the federal budget. Enacting the legislation would not affect revenues or direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

The acreage and waterways to be added by the legislation to the National Wilderness Preservation System and the Wild and Scenic Rivers System are currently administered by the Forest Service or owned by the state. CBO estimates that no additional resources would be required to manage the affected areas as a result of the new designations. We expect that any costs to revise brochures, maps, and signs would be minimal because most such revisions would take place in conjunction with scheduled reprinting and routine maintenance.

Finally, we estimate that enacting the legislation would have no effect on offsetting receipts because the affected lands, which are already managed for conservation purposes, currently produce no income, and are not expected to in the future.

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.

On January 21, 2010, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 721, the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Additions and Pratt and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Rivers Protection Act as

ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on December 16, 2009. The two versions of the legislation are nearly identical, and the estimated costs are the same.

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