



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

June 22, 2010

S. 1748
Southern Sea Otter Recovery and Research Act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation on June 9, 2010*

SUMMARY

S. 1748 would authorize the appropriation of \$5 million annually over the 2011-2016 period for the Fish and Wildlife Service and the United States Geological Survey to conduct research and recovery programs affecting southern sea otters along the coast of California. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that carrying out the program would cost \$20 million over the next five years and an additional \$10 million after 2015. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

S. 1748 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 1748 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2011- 2015
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	5	5	5	5	5	25
Estimated Outlays	2	3	5	5	5	20

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 1748 will be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2010 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar programs.

ESTIMATED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1748 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On June 16, 2009, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 556, the Southern Sea Otter Recovery and Research Act, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on June 10, 2009. H.R. 556 and S. 1742 are similar but would authorize appropriations for different years. The CBO cost estimates reflect this difference.

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