



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE**

June 15, 2009

**S. 212**

**Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries  
Boundary Modification and Protection Act**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
on May 20, 2009*

**SUMMARY**

S. 212 would expand the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary; both are located off the coast of northern California and are managed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Assuming appropriation of the amounts specified in the bill for sanctuary management and estimated to be necessary for vessel construction and acquisition activities as authorized, CBO estimates that implementing S. 212 would cost \$20 million over the 2010-2014 period. Enacting the bill would have no effect on revenues or direct spending.

S. 212 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 212 would impose private-sector mandates, as defined in UMRA, by prohibiting or restricting certain commercial and recreational activities in the areas added to the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries. Based on information from NOAA, CBO estimates that the cost of the mandates would fall below the annual threshold established in UMRA for private-sector mandates (\$139 million in 2009, adjusted annually for inflation).

**ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 212 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					2010-2014
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Additional Sanctuary Operating Costs <sup>a</sup>						
Authorization Level	3	3	3	3	3	15
Estimated Outlays	3	3	3	3	3	15
Vessel Acquisition and Construction						
Estimated Authorization Level	4	1	0	0	0	5
Estimated Outlays	0	2	2	1	0	5
Total Spending Under S. 212						
Estimated Authorization Level	7	4	3	3	3	20
Estimated Outlays	3	5	5	4	3	20

a. Average annual appropriations to manage the two marine sanctuaries at their current size total about \$2 million.

## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 212 will be enacted by the end of fiscal year 2009 and that the amounts specifically authorized or estimated to be necessary will be appropriated for each year. The bill authorizes the appropriation of \$3 million for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2014 to manage the areas added to the two sanctuaries.

The bill also would authorize the appropriation of \$4 million for 2009 and whatever sums are necessary for 2011 through 2014 to construct or acquire an additional vessel to manage the expanded sanctuaries. Based on information provided by NOAA, CBO estimates that an additional \$1 million would be needed in 2011 to complete the acquisition of the new vessel, which is estimated to cost about \$5 million. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for NOAA programs and also reflect the assumption that NOAA would not be able to start building or acquiring a new vessel until it received full funding for the project in 2011.

## **ESTIMATED IMPACT ON STATE, LOCAL, AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS**

S. 212 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

## **ESTIMATED IMPACT ON THE PRIVATE SECTOR**

S. 212 would extend current regulations and any subsequent modifications to those regulations to the areas added to the sanctuaries by the bill. Some of those regulations would impose private-sector mandates, as defined in UMRA, by prohibiting or restricting certain commercial and recreational activities that could injure sanctuary resources. Based on information from NOAA about activities in the areas that would be added and existing regulations for the sanctuaries, CBO estimates that the cost of complying with the mandates would fall below the annual threshold established in UMRA for private-sector mandates (\$139 million in 2009, adjusted annually for inflation).

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