



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

October 20, 2011

H.R. 2352

A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to adjust the boundary of the Stephen Mather Wilderness and the North Cascades National Park in order to allow the rebuilding of a road outside of the floodplain while ensuring that there is no net loss of acreage to the Park or the Wilderness, and for other purposes

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on October 5, 2011

H.R. 2352 would allow the Secretary of the Interior to redraw the boundary of the Stephen Mather Wilderness (which makes up more than 90 percent of the North Cascades National Park in Washington) to exclude a 100-foot wide corridor. The National Park Service (NPS) would use the corridor (which would remain in the park) to reroute a flood-damaged portion of the Stehekin Valley Road.

Based on information provided by the NPS and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that completing the rerouting project would cost about \$3 million over the next five years. Of this amount, about \$500,000 would be spent to conduct an environmental impact study of the boundary change and the construction project. About \$2.5 million would be spent to build the new road segment and restore the remaining portion of the existing road. Enacting H.R. 2352 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

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