



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

August 9, 2012

**H.R. 2541
Silviculture Regulatory Consistency Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
on July 26, 2011*

H.R. 2541 would prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from requiring a point source discharge permit (a type of permit issued under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) for water discharges from the following silvicultural activities: nursery operations; site preparation; reforestation; timber thinning; prescribed burning; pest and fire control; harvesting operations; surface drainage; or road use, construction, and maintenance.

CBO estimates that enacting this legislation would result in no significant impact on the federal budget because EPA is expected to make this change through regulation within the next 12 months. Pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply to H.R. 2541 because enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 2541 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.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Susanne S. Mehlman. This estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.