



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

December 8, 2011

S. 1344

Arizona Wallow Fire Recovery and Monitoring Act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on November 10, 2011*

S. 1344 would require the Forest Service to evaluate portions of the National Forest System affected by the Wallow fire in eastern Arizona. The bill also would authorize the agency to solicit public objections to proposed timber removal projects before the agency decides whether to conduct such projects in areas affected by the fire. Based on information provided by the Forest Service, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1344 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

Many activities that would be completed as part of the evaluation required under the bill are similar to activities performed by the Forest Service under current law. In addition, because the agency is using existing authorities to expeditiously restore forest lands affected by the fire, CBO does not expect that the new authorities provided by S. 1344 would significantly affect the timing of such work. Therefore, we estimate that implementing the bill would have no significant impact on the federal budget.

S. 1344 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 Jeff LaFave. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.