



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

October 22, 2008

S. 3189

Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Improvement Act of 2008

*As reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on September 16, 2008*

SUMMARY

S. 3189 would extend the authorization period and increase the amounts authorized to be appropriated for fish recovery programs in the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins. Under current law, \$61 million is authorized to be appropriated through 2010 for constructing capital projects in both basins. S. 3189 would extend the authority for both programs through 2023 and increase the amount authorized to \$88 million. Based on information from the Bureau of Reclamation, CBO estimates that implementing S. 3189 would cost \$20 million over the 2009-2013 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 3189 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. 3189 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					2009- 2013
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Fish Recovery Spending Under Current Law						
Estimated Authorization Level ^a	7	9	0	0	0	16
Estimated Outlays	7	7	2	0	0	16
Proposed Changes						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	0	7	7	7	21
Estimated Outlays	0	0	6	7	7	20
Fish Recovery Spending Under S. 3189						
Estimated Authorization Level ^a	7	9	7	7	7	37
Estimated Outlays	7	7	8	7	7	36

- a. A full-year appropriation for this program in 2009 has not yet been provided. The 2009 level is the annualized amount of funding provided through March 6, 2009, in the Continuing Resolution. (That amount equals 2008 funding to carry out the fish recovery programs in the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins.) For this estimate, CBO assumes that the remaining \$9 million authorized to be appropriated under current law for those programs will be provided in 2010.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that this legislation will be enacted early in 2009 and that the necessary amounts will be appropriated annually.

Under current law, \$61 million is authorized to be appropriated to the Bureau of Reclamation to implement the fish recovery programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins. S. 3189 would extend that authority to 2023 and would increase the authorization of appropriations to \$88 million. To date, \$52 million has been appropriated for those programs. CBO assumes that the remaining authorized amount of \$9 million will be appropriated for fiscal year 2010. Based on information from the Bureau of Reclamation and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 3189 would cost an additional \$20 million over the 2009-2013 period.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 3189 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. The funds authorized by the bill could benefit states that participate in certain capital projects that assist in recovering the habitats of endangered fish. Any costs those states incur would be conditions of receiving federal assistance.

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