



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

September 30, 1997

H.R. 1779

A bill to make a minor adjustment in the exterior boundary of the Devils Backbone Wilderness in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, to exclude a small parcel of land containing improvements

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Agriculture on September 24, 1997

CBO estimates that enacting this bill would not have a significant impact on the federal budget. Because enacting H.R. 1779 could affect offsetting receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply; however, CBO estimates that any such effect would be negligible. H.R. 1779 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 and would impose no significant costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 1779 would reduce the area of the Devils Backbone Wilderness within the Mark Twain National Forest by excluding about two acres of wilderness now occupied by a private party. Enacting H.R. 1779 could affect direct spending by increasing offsetting receipts because the Forest Service would be likely to sell the property to the private party under the Small Tracts Act (16 U.S.C. 521d) once the property is removed from wilderness designation. Therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply to the bill. However, CBO estimates that any such increase in receipts would total less than \$10,000. Adjusting the boundaries of the wilderness area might involve minor administrative costs, but we estimate that any such changes to discretionary spending would be negligible.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Victoria V. Heid. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.