



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

April 7, 2017

S. 287

A bill to update the map of, and modify the maximum acreage available for inclusion in, the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on March 30, 2017

S. 287 would revise the boundary of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Colorado and increase, from 6,000 to 6,300, the maximum number of acres that could be included in that monument. Enacting S. 287 would enable the National Park Service (NPS) to proceed with plans to acquire approximately 280 acres of land for inclusion within the monument. The underlying legislation that established the monument authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire land by donation, purchase, or exchange.

According to the NPS, the owner of the 280-acre parcel is willing to donate the land for inclusion within the monument; CBO estimates that the agency's administrative costs associated with such a transaction would be negligible. Alternatively, if the NPS were to purchase the parcel, CBO estimates that the resulting costs would total about \$1 million over the 2018-2022 period; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. That estimate is based on information from the NPS and recent sale prices of comparable tracts of land in the areas where land would be purchased. Total costs would depend on the average price per acre, which according to local property records could range from \$2,500 per acre to \$4,000 per acre.

Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting S. 287 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

S. 287 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 Jon Sperl. The estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.