

H.R. 4677, New York-New Jersey Watershed Protection Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on February 16, 2022

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2022	2022-2026	2022-2031
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	124	150
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2032?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 4677 would authorize the appropriation of \$25 million annually over the 2022-2027 period for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to provide grants for restoration and habitat protection within the New York-New Jersey Watershed and to coordinate those activities. The bill would direct USFWS to allocate at least 75 percent of the authorized amounts for grants.

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted late in fiscal year 2022 and that the authorized amounts will be provided each year. Using information from USFWS, CBO expects that the agency would enter into an agreement with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, a nonfederal entity, to manage the grant program on its behalf, as authorized under the bill. Thus, amounts provided to USFWS for the grant program would be transferred to the foundation in full at the beginning of each fiscal year starting in 2023. On that basis and using historical spending patterns for similar programs, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 4677 would cost \$124 million over the 2022-2026 period and \$26 million after 2026.



The costs of the legislation, detailed in Table 1, fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

**Table 1.
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under H.R. 4677**

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars										2022-2026	2022-2031
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031		
Authorization	25	25	25	25	25	25	0	0	0	0	125	150
Estimated Outlays	*	48	26	25	25	25	1	0	0	0	124	150

* = between zero and \$500,000.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Janani Shankaran. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.