

H.R. 1419, Comprehensive Grizzly Bear Management Act of 2023

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 28, 2023

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2023	2023-2028	2023-2033
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	*	*
Revenues	0	*	*
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	*	*
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034?	No	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034?	< \$5 billion	Mandate Effects	
		Contains intergovernmental mandate?	Yes, Under Threshold
		Contains private-sector mandate?	Yes, Under Threshold
* = between -\$500,000 and \$500,000.			

H.R. 1419 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue, without regard to other provisions of law, a final rule removing the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem population of grizzly bears from the list of threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). H.R. 1419 also would exempt the final rule from judicial review.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is authorized to collect permitting fees for lawful activities that involve protected species, including scientific research, conservation, and unintentional taking of the animals while performing permitted activities. Under H.R. 1419, permits would no longer be required for such activities involving grizzly bears in the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem. Permitting fees are recorded in the budget as offsetting receipts (or reductions in direct spending) and are available to be spent without further appropriation. Using information from USFWS, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1419 would reduce those receipts and the consequent spending by an insignificant amount over the 2024-2033 period so that the net increase in direct spending would be negligible.

Violators of the ESA are subject to civil and criminal penalties, which are recorded as revenues and are available for spending without further appropriation. Using information

See also

[CBO's Cost Estimates Explained](#), [CBO Describes Its Cost-Estimating Process](#), [Glossary](#)



from USFWS, CBO estimates that any reductions in penalties or associated spending would be insignificant because of the small number of related cases expected to occur over the 2024-2033 period.

Finally, CBO estimates that the administrative costs to issue the final rule under H.R. 1419 would be insignificant; any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

H.R. 1419 would impose an intergovernmental and private-sector mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) by eliminating a right of action for entities to seek judicial review of the administrative rule required by the bill. Because the rights of action precluded under the bill do not generally result in monetary damages, CBO estimates that the cost of the mandates would fall well below the intergovernmental and private-sector thresholds established in UMRA (\$99 million and \$198 million in 2023, respectively, adjusted annually for inflation).

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Lilia Ledezma (for federal costs) and Brandon Lever (for mandates). The estimate was reviewed by Emily Stern, Senior Adviser for Budget Analysis.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phillip L. Swagel'.

Phillip L. Swagel
Director, Congressional Budget Office