

At a Glance

S. 334, Clean Water for Rural Communities Act

As reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on October 22, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2020	2020-2024	2020-2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	4	64	74
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 2030?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

The bill would

- Authorize the appropriation of \$69 million for the Bureau of Reclamation to plan and construct the Musselshell-Judith Rural Water System in Montana (including adjustments to account for inflation)
- Authorize the appropriation of \$5 million for the Bureau of Reclamation to revise the feasibility study to construct the Dry-Redwater Regional Water Authority System to provide water to rural communities in Montana and North Dakota

Estimated budgetary effects would primarily stem from

- Authorizing appropriations to the Bureau of Reclamation to advance two water supply projects

Detailed estimate begins on the next page.

Bill Summary

S. 334 would authorize the appropriation of \$62 million plus additional amounts to account for inflation for the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to advance two water supply projects in Montana and North Dakota.

Estimated Federal Cost

The estimated budgetary effect of S. 334 is shown in Table 1. The costs of the legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

Table 1.
Estimated Budgetary Effects of S. 334

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars					2020-2024
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Musselshell-Judith Rural Water System						
Estimated Authorization	5	15	16	16	17	69
Estimated Outlays	3	10	14	16	16	59
Dry-Redwater Feasibility Study						
Estimated Authorization	2	2	1	0	0	5
Estimated Outlays	1	2	1	1	0	5
Total Changes						
Estimated Authorization	7	17	17	16	17	74
Estimated Outlays	4	12	15	17	16	64

Basis of Estimate

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 334 will be enacted near the end of 2019. The bill would authorize the appropriation of specific amounts but does not specify the year in which any appropriation should be provided. CBO has estimated the necessary amounts for each year using information from BOR. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar programs. Total estimated outlays are greater than the authorized amounts because of adjustments for inflation.

Musselshell-Judith Rural Water System

S. 334 would authorize the BOR to plan, design, and construct groundwater wells and distribution facilities to deliver water to rural communities in central Montana. The federal share (65 percent) of costs to construct the project would total about \$69 million (including adjustments for inflation); the project could be completed in about six years. CBO estimates that the federal cost to implement those provisions would total \$59 million over the 2020-2024 period; the remainder of the federal costs would occur after 2024.

Dry-Redwater Feasibility Study

S. 334 also would authorize the BOR to revise the feasibility study for constructing water treatment and distribution facilities to deliver water to existing storage tanks in rural communities in eastern Montana and in northwestern North Dakota. CBO estimates that implementing those provisions would cost \$5 million over the 2020-2024 period.

Pay-As-You-Go Considerations: None.

Increase in Long-Term Deficits: None.

Mandates: None.

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