



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

June 16, 2009

**H.R. 556
Southern Sea Otter Recovery and Research Act**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on June 10, 2009

SUMMARY

H.R. 556 would authorize the appropriation of \$5 million annually over the 2010-2015 period for the Fish and Wildlife Service and the United States Geological Survey to carry out a recovery and research program affecting the southern sea otters along the coast of California. The program would include awarding competitive grants for research regarding the otters and for projects to assist in the recovery of the otter population. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that carrying out those activities would cost \$20 million over the next five years. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 556 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 556 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2010- 2014
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	5	5	5	5	5	25
Estimated Outlays	2	3	5	5	5	20

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 556 will be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2009 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar programs.

ESTIMATED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 556 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

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