



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 31, 2012

S. 2282

North American Wetlands Conservation Extension Act of 2012

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on July 25, 2012*

SUMMARY

S. 2282 would authorize the appropriation of \$75 million a year through 2017 for programs carried out under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA). Under current law, the authority for such appropriations will expire at the end of fiscal year 2012. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) uses amounts appropriated under NAWCA primarily for grants to state, local, and tribal governments, nonprofit organizations, and other entities that carry out wetlands conservation projects.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost \$263 million over the 2013-2017 period and \$112 million after 2017. Enacting S. 2282 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

S. 2282 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 S. 2282 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment). For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted in 2012 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for this program.

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2013- 2017
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level ^a	75	75	75	75	75	375
Estimated Outlays	19	38	56	75	75	263

- a. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service received appropriations totaling \$36 million in fiscal year 2012 to carry out activities under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act.
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INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 2282 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. Implementing this legislation would benefit state, local, and tribal governments because, assuming such amounts are appropriated, they would receive a portion of the funds authorized.

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