



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

December 2, 2005

S. 1578

**Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basin
Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Reauthorization Act of 2005**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on November 16, 2005*

SUMMARY

S. 1578 would extend the authorization period and increase the amounts authorized to be appropriated for the fish recovery programs in the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins. Under current law, \$46 million is authorized to be appropriated through 2008 for the construction of capital projects in both basins. Enacting S. 1578 would extend the authorization for both programs through 2010 and increase the authorization of appropriations to \$61 million for construction projects. CBO estimates that implementing S. 1578 would cost \$12 million over the 2008-2010 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amount.

S. 1578 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. The funds authorized in the bill would benefit states participating in programs that assist with recovering fish habitats. Any cost they may incur would result from complying with conditions for receiving federal assistance.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 1578 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				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Fish Recovery Spending Under Current Law					
Estimated Authorization Level ^a	2	4	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	3	4	1	1	0
Proposed Changes					
Estimated Authorization Level	0	0	5	5	5
Estimated Outlays	0	0	3	4	5
Fish Recovery Spending Under S. 1578					
Estimated Authorization Level ^a	2	4	5	5	5
Estimated Outlays	3	4	4	5	5

- a. The 2006 level is the amount appropriated for that year to carry out the fish recovery programs in the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins. The 2007 level reflects the current balance of authorized funding for the Bureau of Reclamation to carry out these fish recovery programs. For this estimate, CBO assumes that the remaining \$4 million authorized to be appropriated for these programs will be provided in 2007.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that this legislation will be enacted in 2006 and that the estimated amounts necessary to implement the bill will be appropriated for 2008 through 2010.

Under current law, \$46 million is authorized to be appropriated to the Bureau of Reclamation to implement the fish recovery programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins. To date, the bureau has been appropriated \$42 million for these programs, and CBO assumes that the balance of funds remaining from the current authorization (that is, \$4 million) will be appropriated in fiscal year 2007. Enacting this legislation would increase the authorization of appropriation from \$46 million to \$61 million. CBO assumes that the additional \$15 million authorized to be appropriated for the fish recovery programs would be provided over the 2008-2010 period in equal increments. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amount, CBO estimates that implementing this bill would cost \$12 million over the 2008-2010 period.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1578 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. The funds authorized in the bill would benefit states participating in programs that assist with recovering fish habitats. Any cost they may incur would result from complying with conditions for receiving federal assistance.

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