



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

November 5, 2009

**H.R. 2888
Devil's Staircase Wilderness Act of 2009**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources
on October 28, 2009*

H.R. 2888 would designate about 29,650 acres of federal land in Oregon as the Devil's Staircase Wilderness. The bill also would designate about 15 miles of creeks in the area as wild rivers under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Based on information provided by the affected federal agencies, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2888 would have no significant effect on the federal budget. Enacting the legislation would not affect revenues or direct spending.

The acreage and waterways to be added to the National Wilderness Preservation System and the Wild and Scenic Rivers System are currently administered by the Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management (BLM). CBO estimates that no additional resources would be required to manage the affected areas as a result of the new designations. Assuming availability of appropriated funds, we estimate that the Forest Service would incur some small costs to decommission roads within the wilderness and convert one road to a recreational trail. We expect that any costs to revise brochures, maps, and signs would be minimal because most such revisions would take place in conjunction with scheduled reprinting and routine maintenance.

Finally, we estimate that enacting the legislation would have no effect on Forest Service or BLM offsetting receipts because the affected lands, which are already managed for conservation purposes, currently produce no income and are not expected to in the future.

The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.