CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

July 8, 2010

S. 1719
Wasatch-Cache National Forest Land Conveyance Act of 2010

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on June 21, 2010

S. 1719 would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey, without consideration, certain lands in Utah to the town of Alta. Based on information from the Forest Service, CBO estimates that enacting the legislation would have no significant impact on the federal budget. CBO expects that enacting the legislation would increase direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. CBO estimates, however, that such effects would be negligible. Enacting the legislation would not affect revenues.

Under current law, the Forest Service receives payments totaling less than $20,000 per year for easements on the affected lands. Under the bill, those lands would be conveyed to Alta, Utah. Thus, CBO estimates that enacting the legislation would reduce offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending) by less than $200,000 over the 2010-2020 period. Because the bill would require the town to pay the administrative costs associated with the land exchange, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would not have a significant impact on spending subject to appropriation.

The Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 establishes budget-reporting and enforcement procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or revenues. S. 1719 would reduce offsetting receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. However, CBO estimates that the increase in direct spending under the bill would not be significant over the 2010-2020 period.

S. 1719 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 Jeff LaFave. The estimate was approved by Sam Papenfuss, Unit Chief for Income Security and Education Cost Estimates Unit, Budget Analysis Division.