

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 27, 2010

S. 2798 National Forest Insect and Disease Emergency Act of 2010

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on August 5, 2010

S. 2798 would authorize the Forest Service to carry out certain activities to mitigate fire hazards caused by insect and disease infestations in national forests. Based on information provided by the Forest Service, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

Under the bill, the Forest Service could enter into contracts with state governments to perform certain restoration activities in national forests. Any amounts paid to states to carry out those activities would be offset by reduced spending for similar activities performed by the agency. In addition, based on information from the Forest Service, CBO estimates that other authorities provided under the bill would not affect the federal budget because those authorities exist under current law.

S. 2798 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 Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.