

At a Glance

S. 914, Coordinated Ocean Observations and Research Act of 2019

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on April 3, 2019

By Fiscal year, Millions of Dollars	2019	2019-2024	2019-2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Deficit Effect	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	490	567
Pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

The bill would

- Amend and authorize appropriations for the Integrated Ocean Observation System
- Authorize appropriations for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to create a National Water Center

Estimated budgetary effects would primarily stem from

- Spending of amounts specifically authorized to be appropriated

Detailed estimate begins on the next page.

Bill Summary

Title I of S. 914 would amend the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009 to make changes to and authorize appropriations for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA’s) Integrated Ocean Observation System (IOOS). Title I also would require the National Science and Technology Council’s Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology to study the economic effects of increasing ocean acidification.

Title II of the bill would require changes to NOAA’s Named Storm Event model, which identifies named storms that threaten the United States and assesses storm characteristics and damage.

Title III of the bill would authorize appropriations for a National Water Center within NOAA to focus on analyzing current water resources and future water resource needs within the United States. The center would develop an advanced water resources model and report on the outlook for flooding and the nation’s use of water resources.

Estimated Federal Cost

The estimated budgetary effect of S. 914 is shown in Table 1. The costs of the legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

Table 1.
Estimated Increases in Spending Subject to Appropriation Under S. 914

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars						2019-2024
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Reauthorization of Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act							
Authorization	0	55	62	68	75	82	342
Estimated Outlays	0	33	49	63	71	78	294
Water Prediction and Forecasting							
Authorization	0	44	44	45	46	46	225
Estimated Outlays	0	26	36	43	45	46	196
Total Changes							
Authorization	0	99	106	113	121	128	567
Estimated Outlays	0	59	85	106	116	124	490

Basis of Estimate

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 914 will be enacted during fiscal year 2019 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year beginning in 2020.

S. 914 would authorize the appropriation of \$567 million over the 2020-2024 period. Based on historical spending patterns and assuming appropriation of those amounts, CBO estimates that the bill would cost \$490 million over the same period and \$77 million after 2024.

Reauthorization of Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act

Title I of S. 914 would authorize the appropriation of specific amounts each year that total about \$342 million over the 2020-2024 period for NOAA to implement the IOOS. CBO estimates that implementing this section would cost \$294 million over the 2020-2024 period. In 2019, NOAA allocated \$45 million to operate the IOOS.

Water Prediction and Forecasting

Title III of S. 914 would create a National Water Center within NOAA and would authorize the appropriation of specific amounts each year that total about \$225 million over the 2020-2024 period for NOAA to create and run the center. CBO estimates that implementing this section would cost about \$196 million over the 2020-2024 period.

Pay-As-You-Go Considerations: None.

Increase in Long-Term Deficits: None.

Mandates: None.

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