

H.R. 2215, San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act
 As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on November 20, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2020	2020-2025	2020-2030
Direct Spending (Outlays)	*	*	*
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	*	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	4	not estimated
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2031?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 2215 would establish the San Gabriel National Recreation Area in California. The bill also would expand the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument, and would designate roughly 31,000 acres of federal land in the Angeles National Forest as wilderness. Finally, H.R. 2215 would add 46 miles of river segments to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted in fiscal year 2020. Under that assumption, the agency could incur some costs in 2020, but CBO expects that most of the costs would be incurred in 2021 and later. Any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Using information from the National Park Service (NPS), CBO estimates that the agency would hire a site coordinator for the recreation area at an initial annual cost of \$180,000; those costs would increase each year with expected inflation. In addition, it would cost the NPS about \$1 million to develop a visitor services plan and to manage advisory groups required under the bill. Using information from the Forest Service, and based on the costs of similar tasks, CBO estimates that the agency would incur upfront costs of \$2 million for the monument expansion and for the wilderness and river designations. That amount includes costs to develop management plans, conduct boundary surveys, and update maps and



signage. In total, implementing H.R. 2215 would cost \$4 million over the 2020-2025 period; such spending also would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The Forest Service issues special use permits to authorize certain activities—for example, recreation events—on National Forest System land. Income from those permits is classified in the budget as offsetting receipts, or reductions in direct spending, and is available for the agency to spend without further appropriation. Under H.R. 2215, the federal government could forgo receipts because land designated as wilderness would be unavailable for special uses. However, CBO estimates that the net effect on direct spending would be negligible over the 2020-2030 period.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Janani Shankaran and David Hughes. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.