



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

March 26, 1998

H.R. 2416

A bill to provide for the transfer of certain rights and property to the United States Forest Service in exchange for a payment to the occupant of such property, and for other purposes

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on March 11, 1998

H.R. 2416 would direct the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Forest Service, to pay the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Church of Christ (RMC) the fair market value for certain water rights and residential structures if the RMC agrees to vacate about six acres of federal land (described in the bill) in the White River National Forest in Colorado. The bill would direct the RMC and the Forest Service to split the appraisal costs. Alternatively, H.R. 2416 would authorize the Secretary to convey the six acres of federal land to the RMC through an exchange.

CBO estimates that implementing the bill would have no significant impact on the federal budget. If the RMC vacates the land, H.R. 2416 would increase direct spending by the Forest Service in fiscal year 1999, and thus pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. But we estimate that the increase in direct spending would total less than \$500,000.

H.R. 2416 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Victoria V. Heid. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.