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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Stewart DATE TYPED 1/24/2005 HB 31

SHORT TITLE Game Protection Fund Appropriations SB _____

ANALYST Aguilar

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	See Narrative			Nonrecurring	Game Protection Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Department of Game and fish (DGF)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 31 reverses an appropriation of one hundred thousand dollars to the state engineer from the game protection fund. The appropriation was made under Item 75 of Section 5 of Chapter 114 of Laws 2004.

Significant Issues

The subject appropriation was made in the final days of the 2004 legislative session to support operations in the office of the State Engineer. The appropriation was made without consulting the Department of Game and Fish and stands in violation of Section 17-1-28 NMSA 1978. This statute is the assent by the state of New Mexico to the provisions of the federal Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Acts. Those provisions include a requirement that money from the game protection fund shall not be expended for any purposes other than the administration of the Department of Game and Fish. Failure to abide by that condition precludes the Department of Game and Fish from receiving grants from the Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Acts, which provide over \$9 million in federal funds annually.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Failure to reverse the one hundred thousand dollar appropriation will preclude the Department from access to approximately nine million dollars in annual revenue from the Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration program which will severely impact agency operations and programs.

PA/yr