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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Soules ORIGINAL DATE 01/27/2020
LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Study Funding of Nongame Species Conservation SB 33

ANALYST Wan

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY20	FY21		
	\$200.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Game and Fish (DGF)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 33 appropriates \$200 thousand from the general fund to DGF to fund a study to quantify funding needs and identify potential sources of funding for an expansion of DGF's authority to include the conservation of nongame wildlife species, state-threatened and endangered species, and species of greatest conservation need.

There is no effective date of this bill. It is assumed that the effective date is 90 days following adjournment of the Legislature.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$200 thousand contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY21 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DGF states the agency would need to conduct a request for proposals that would require staff time to help contractors understand how the agency is currently funded and any limitations on

current funding. According to DGF, regardless of the passage of this bill, agency staff will continue to explore alternate funding sources related to the management of nongame species and state and federal threatened and endangered species. DGF states the Recovering America's Wildlife Act, currently being considered by the U.S. Congress, would provide a substantial increase in federal funding for nongame and state and federal threatened and endangered species but would require nonfederal matching funds. DGF further states that many state wildlife agencies across the country are exploring options to generate additional funding to meet this match if the legislation passes, and the agency will look to these other states for best practices.

CW/sb/al