

**LFC Requester:**

**Helen Gaussoin**

**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS  
2024 REGULAR SESSION**

**WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO:**

**Analysis.nmlegis.gov**

*{Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF}*

**SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

*{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}*

*Check all that apply:*

**Original**  **Amendment**   
**Correction**  **Substitute**

**Date** 1-20-24

**Bill No:** SM 1

**Sponsor:** Senator Jeff Steinborn  
**Short Title:** WORKING GROUP ON  
CITIZEN SCIENCE

**Agency Name and Code** State Land Office - 539  
**Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

**ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)**

	<b>FY24</b>	<b>FY25</b>	<b>FY26</b>	<b>3 Year Total Cost</b>	<b>Recurring or Nonrecurring</b>	<b>Fund Affected</b>
<b>Total</b>	No Fiscal Impact	No Fiscal Impact	No Fiscal Impact			

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:  
Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

**SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

**BILL SUMMARY**

Synopsis: Senate Memorial 1 requests that the State Parks Division of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, the Department of Environment, the State Land Office, the Department of Game and Fish and other interested state departments and agencies participate in a working group convened and managed by the Wild Friends Program at the University of New Mexico Law School. The mission of Wild Friends is to provide a statewide, experiential education program that integrates civics and wildlife law to help students in grades four through twelve understand the democratic process, develop good citizenship skills, and contribute to wildlife conservation. The purpose of the working group is to develop and recommend actions to expand the use of citizen science, including a pilot project for the use of the Wild Friends Program and for use as a template for state government agencies.

## **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The State Land Office's participation in the working group would require staff time but would be absorbed through existing staffing levels.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The partnership established through SM1 supports the State Land Office's use of scientific data for land management decisions. The partnership increases capacity for effective data gathering that has great potential to positively influence management on state trust lands, partner-managed lands, and in areas where state trust land may be in the vicinity.

The State Land Office is a willing partner in establishing a program for citizen science data collection to inform, increase reliability of, and facilitate adaptive management when making land management decisions. The intended effort appears to align with our commitment to accomplishing our mission and goals sustainably and in a way that promotes ecosystem resilience. Implementation of the program will follow a similar process to other internal procedures, partnership activities, and internship programs already in place in the NMSLO.

## **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Staff time would be required support the working group to develop and recommend actions for the establishment of effective citizen science through the development of repeatable, reliable, and targeted methods of scientific data collection in the state to support scientific decision making for natural resource management. Further, State Land Office staff would be required to participate in piloting data collection practices to ensure the data is actionable and integrates into current decision-making practices.

### **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

### **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

### **ALTERNATIVES**

### **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

### **AMENDMENTS**