

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 01/22/10
 LAST UPDATED 02/01/10 HB 51/aHCPAC

SPONSOR Taylor

SHORT TITLE San Juan River Special Management Areas SB _____

ANALYST Woods

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY10	FY11	FY12		
	\$355.0	\$355.0	Recurring	Game Protection Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY10	FY11	FY12	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		\$100.0	\$225.0	\$325.0	Recurring	Game Protection Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

* Fiscal data provided by the Department of Game and Fish.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (DGF)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HCPAC Amendment

House Consumer and Public Affairs Committee Amendment to House Bill 51 effects the following:

1. On page 2, between lines 12 and 13, insert the following new section to read:
 "Section 2. DELAYED REPEAL.--This 2010 act is repealed effective June 30, 2020."
2. Renumber the succeeding section accordingly.

Synopsis of Original Bill

This legislation seeks to provide for a new section in Chapter 17, Article 3, allowing the State Game Commission to designate Special Management Areas on the San Juan River below Navajo Dam and requiring any person angling in the designated areas to purchase, in addition to a fishing license, a Special Management Permit. The Permit is valid for the license year in which it was purchased. The Permit fee for a resident is \$5.00 and for a non-resident the fee is \$10.00. All funds derived from the Permit will be held in the Game Protection Fund and may only be expended on improvements to the designated Special Management Area.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

DGF indicates that the permit is estimated to produce \$355,000 in revenue annually (13,000 resident anglers x \$5.00 plus 29,000 non-resident anglers x \$10.00). The revenue stream would not begin until the effective date of the bill. The first year of revenue would thus be less than the anticipated annual income. It is anticipated that the bulk of the funds would be budgeted and expended from the operating budget annually to improve the fishery and attendant facilities. However, depending on project priorities and costs, balances may develop over the short term to address large scale, capital projects. It is noteworthy that the San Juan River fishery's fiscal impact to surrounding communities is estimated to be between \$20 and \$40 million.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

No significant issues have been identified with this bill.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

DGF advises that the San Juan River fishery is a high use fishery. A portion of anglers have recently expressed concerns with the quality of the fishery. Additional funding provided through the Permit would allow the Department to address concerns, and thus improve the Department's performance measure of angler satisfaction.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

DGF states, "If the bill is not enacted there will be no permanent revenue stream dedicated to management of the San Juan River Special Management Area. Without this dedicated funding, projects on the San Juan will have to be prioritized with other Department needs and may not be addressed in as timely a manner as may be desired by anglers."

AMENDMENTS

None suggested by respondent.

BW/mt