

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 01/31/11

SPONSOR Madalena LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HJM 7

SHORT TITLE Study Pueblo Operation of Jemez State Monument SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Soderquist

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY11	FY12		
	NFI		General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Cultural Affairs Department (OCA)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Joint Memorial 7 requests that the Department of Cultural Affairs conduct a feasibility study on returning control and operation of the Jemez State Monument to the Pueblo of Jemez.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

#

There are no fiscal implications in conducting the study requested by HJM 7. Specific staff already working for State Monuments would be requested to conduct the study before October 2011.

Yearly admissions revenue coming into the Department of Cultural Affairs/State Monuments Division from Jemez State Monument is approximately \$19.0 thousand. Those revenues would be affected if control and operation of the monument were to be transferred to the Pueblo of Jemez. The portion of the General Fund operating budget for the monument that is currently in DCA's operating budget would be affected, as would any other means of support provided to the Monument by the Department. Those issues would be explored in the study.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

On June 21, 1921 Jemez Land Company sold the property, seven acres known today as Jemez State Monument, to the School of American Research and the Museum of New Mexico for the sum of one dollar. The deed states that the property is to be fenced and the ruins cared for as to prevent any depredation or other destructions, and to keep the same as a park for the benefit of the public. In case the parties should at any time cease to use the real estate mentioned above for the purposes stated, then the title shall revert to the Jemez Land Company.

Jemez State Monument was declared a state monument in 1935 by Frank Vesely—New Mexico State Land Commissioner. The proclamation identified the ruins of Giusewa Pueblo, one of the ancestral homes of the Towa-speaking people of Jemez Pueblo, and the ruins of San Jose de los Jemez Church, an early 17<sup>th</sup> Century Franciscan Mission, as the archeologically and historically significant resources that justified the monument's establishment.

Since being declared a monument, a series of projects have taken place at the site. Excavation of the site occurred in 1910, 1921, and 1935-37 (under the Civilian Conservation Corp). Projects under the Works Progress Administration (WPA) including restoration/preservation work at Jemez also took place in 1935-37. New Mexico State Monuments has undertaken a series of repairs for stabilization of the ruins of San Jose de los Jemez Church and Giusewa Pueblo: first, in 1965; then, 1977-1978; again in the late 1980s; and more or less continuously since 2002. The existing visitor's center was constructed in 1968, which is when the site officially opened to the public for visitation.

In October 27, 1967, the School of American Research released ownership of Jemez State Monument to the Museums of New Mexico Board of Regents, who still holds title to the property. Jemez State Monument is Laboratory of Anthropology Site #48. It was added to the New Mexico State Listing of Historic Places on March 20, 1969. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on March 14, 1973 (site #01973-03-14). Currently, New Mexico State Monuments Division has a grant with the National Park Service to nominate the site as a National Historic Landmark.

## **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

Approximately 600,000 people have visited the site since record keeping began in 1976—about 18,000 per year. Admission revenues in the last three fiscal years have averaged \$19,000.00.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Staff of New Mexico State Monuments would be assigned to conduct HJM 7 feasibility study.

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

As stated in the 1921 Quitclaim Deed between Jemez Land Company and the Museum of New Mexico, if the Museum of New Mexico ceases to keep the terms and conditions of the deed, the land is reverted to Jemez Land Company

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

Officials from the Pueblo of Jemez made a presentation before the Museum of New Mexico Board of Regents during fall 2010, expressing the Pueblo's interest in regaining control, care and management of Jemez State Monument. The Board has taken the issue under consideration and has requested that the Pueblo develop a plan for operation of the Monument to present to the Board for its review in consideration of the issue.

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

The Board would continue to review the issue in conjunction with staff and the Pueblo.

RS/svb:bym