

LFC Requester:	
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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION****WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO****[AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov](https://agencyanalysis.nmlegis.gov) and email to [billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov](mailto:billanalysis@dfa.nm.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}***Date Prepared:** 3/14/2025*Check all that apply:***Bill Number:** SM 23Original     ☒ Correction

Amendment     Substitute

**Sponsor:** Sen. Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales     **Agency Name and Code Number:** Office of the State Engineer 550

**Person Writing Analysis:**Nat Chakeres

**Short Title:** Taos Water Impoundment Study

**Email** Nathaniel.chakeres@o**Phone:** 505-231-4459 : se.nm.gov**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT****APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
None	None		

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate expenditure decreases)

**REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		
None	None	None		

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate revenue decreases)

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

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	None	\$250	None	\$250	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to: None

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act: None

### **SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

#### **BILL SUMMARY**

##### **Synopsis:**

This memorial would request the Office of the State Engineer to coordinate with state, local and tribal government agencies to study the benefits, costs, and feasibility of constructing a new earthen impoundment for water in Taos County for wildfire suppression and structure protection during wildfires, as well as the availability and cost of the water rights needed to fill such an impoundment with water. The memorial also requests that the OSE report its findings and recommendations to the appropriate interim committees that studies issues concerning water and natural resources.

#### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The OSE estimates that the work involved in planning, executing, and presenting the study requested by the memorial would take the equivalent work of 2.0 FTEs for one year. Assuming direct and indirect costs of \$125,000/FTE, the OSE estimates that it would take approximately \$250,000 for the OSE to complete the study. Some or all of the work would likely be performed by contractors so as to prevent OSE staff from needing to be taken off their existing duties.

#### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

None

#### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

None

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

None

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

None

#### **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

None

#### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

None

**ALTERNATIVES**

None

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

There will not be a request for a study to analyze the possibility of constructing a new earthen impoundment for water in Taos County.

**AMENDMENTS**

None