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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Larranga DATE TYPED: 01/23/01 HB 114  
 SHORT TITLE: Interstate Stream Commission for the Implemen- SB  
tation of Regional Water Plans  
 ANALYST: Dotson

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
	\$ 500,000.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in The General Appropriation Act HB 113

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

HB 114 appropriates \$500,000 from the general fund to the Interstate Stream Commission. The Interstate Stream Commission will use the funds to implement the completed the regional water plans.

#### Significant Issues

According to the agency, New Mexico's growth and desert climate require active management of it's water resources. Regional waster plans are needed to specify implementing programs and alternatives that actively manage the region's water resources.

### PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

According to the agency, active water resources management specified by implementing actions and alternatives in regional water plans needs state funding assistance. Many regional water plans alternatives include establishing programs to collect data for needed appropriate management of the state's water resources and the long term stability of water resources in a region. Funding are needed for well monitoring programs, stream flow measurement activities, water shed management, and planning and construction works.

Funding to implement completed water plans will be an additional incentive for regions to complete their plans.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

## **House Bill 114 -- Page 2**

The appropriation of \$500,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund in FY02, FY03 and FY04. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY04 shall revert to the general fund.

According to the agency, the direct fiscal impact of this bill is the appropriation. The long term cost of not conducting and implementing water planning is huge, including reduced government revenues. State appropriations could be used by regions to secure both local and federal matching funds for implementation of regional water plan activities and programs.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

According to the agency, no new FTE is required.

### **CONFLICT/DUPLICATION/COMPANIONSHIP/RELATIONSHIP**

HB 113 appropriates \$1,500,000 from the general fund to the Interstate Stream Commission. The Interstate Stream Commission will use the funds to complete the regional water planning process.

### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

According to the agency if this bill is not enacted, completed regional water plans will not be implemented and regions with uncompleted plans will not have the incentive of funding to implement their plans.

### **POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

Are the matching funds required for implementation in place? If not, what obstacles need to be overcome to secure these funds?

PD/njw