

LFC Requester: _____

AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION
WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO
AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov and email to 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: 2/17/2025 *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: S332-341 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Sen. Sanchez **Agency Name and Code** DFA-341
Short Title: MIDDLE RIO GRANDE WILDFIRE **Number:** _____
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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
	(5,000.0)	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		

(Parenthesis () indicate revenue decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total						

(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

Senate Bill 332 (SB332) appropriates \$5 million to the Local Government Division (LGD) of the Department of Finance and Administration for the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD) to conduct wildfire prevention measures.

The effective date of this bill is July 1, 2025.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

- The appropriation of \$5 million contained in SB332 is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund for expenditure in FY26 through FY31.
- Any unexpended of unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY31 will revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

MRGCD would use the funding to implement targeted fuel breaks and defensible space measures to stop or slow the spread of wildfires within areas under its jurisdiction. This will be achieved through the following actions:

- **Removal and Treatment of Non-Native Species** – Removing and treating invasive vegetation to prevent regrowth and reduce fire risk.
- **Slash and Wood Chip Management** – Removing debris generated from projects to minimize fuel loads.
- **Treatment of Dead and Down Wood** – Processing downed wood to prescribed standards, reducing fuel accumulation while providing community firewood.
- **Removal of Dead Standing Trees (Snags)** – Reducing hazardous snags, particularly in post-fire areas, to improve safety and reduce fire spread potential.
- **Invasive Weed Management and Native Plant Restoration** – Controlling species such as kochia and tumbleweed while reintroducing native vegetation to stabilize the ecosystem.
- **Purchase of equipment such as chippers, chainsaws and masticators** to reduce tree densities and fuel loads that increase fire risk
- **Enhancing Access for Emergency Responders** – Improving ingress and egress routes with adequate turnarounds to facilitate emergency response operations.

This approach aims to create a safer, more resilient environment while maintaining the ecological integrity of the Bosque and other areas within MRGCD's jurisdiction.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

To distribute funding, LGD would enter into a multi year grant agreement with the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District to obligate funds and issue payment reimbursements for valid prevention expenditures.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

AMENDMENTS