

LFC Requester:	Helen Gaussoin
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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: Feb 11, 2025 *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: SM 3 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Sen. Peter Wirth **Agency Name and Code** State Land Office - 539
Short Title: BEAVER MANAGEMENT PLAN **Number:** _____
Person Writing Sunalei Stewart
Phone: 505-827-5755 **Email** sstewart@nmslo.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		
No Fiscal Impact	No Fiscal Impact	No Fiscal Impact		

(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	No Fiscal Impact	No Fiscal Impact	No Fiscal Impact			

(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

Synopsis:

This memorial would request that the Department of Game and Fish, the Forestry Division of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, and the State Land Office:

- jointly develop recommendations on development of a statewide beaver management plan;
- recommend which agency would take the lead role in the development;
- identify the stakeholder groups to be included in the development;
- develop a timeline and a budget; and
- present recommendations to the appropriate interim committee by October 1, 2025.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The New Mexico State Land Office's (NMSLO) participation in the development plan would require staff time but it would be absorbed through existing staffing levels. No fiscal impact to the NMSLO.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

North American beavers are considered ecosystem engineers. Their dams increase surface area, create pools and catchments for water, slow water flow, raise the water table, and provide other ecosystem services. Beavers are valuable furbearers and were trapped and disappeared from many New Mexico landscapes before the 1900s.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The New Mexico State Land Office, under the direction of Commissioner of Public Lands Stephanie Garcia Richard, manages nine million surface and 13 million mineral acres across every county. This land, referred to as state trust land, was allocated to New Mexico by the Federal Government under the Ferguson Act of 1898 and the Enabling Act of 1910. The mission of the agency is to use state trust land to raise revenue for New Mexico public schools, hospitals, colleges, and other public institutions.

A significant portion (around 12%) of the surface area of the State of New Mexico is state trust land, and therefore the inclusion of the State Land Office as a consulting agency is appropriate. However, the State Land Office has very little land that can support beavers or their habitat so another agency would be more to serve as the lead agency.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

AMENDMENTS