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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Stewart DATE TYPED: 02/04/01 HB 174  
 SHORT TITLE: Wildlife Violator Compact SB \_\_\_\_\_  
 ANALYST: Rael

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
		See Narrative		Recurring	GF

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Game and Fish (DGF)  
 Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

The purpose of this bill is to better protect the wildlife resources without regard to political boundaries. A person should be required to comply with wildlife laws of a participating state as a condition to the issuance of a hunting or fishing license. This bill will assure that wildlife violators who have had their hunting and fishing privileges revoked in another compact state will have their hunting and fishing privileges revoked in New Mexico and all other compact states. Currently in New Mexico, a non-resident wildlife violator is arrested or taken directly to court. This enforcement practice consumes an undue amount of time and causes unnecessary inconvenience and hardship to a person who cannot afford bond, bail, or penalty money. This bill would allow officers to issue a citation to non-residents and let them go on their way. The non-resident must take care of the citation or face revocation in New Mexico and their home state.

#### Significant Issues

The wildlife violators compact was an initiative of the states in the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife agencies. Currently 12 states have passed the Wildlife Violators Compact. The compact will slow the immigration of wildlife violators into New Mexico.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

See Administrative Implications.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

If the bill is enacted, the initial cost to the Department of Game and Fish will be \$25.0 due to increased postage and hearing costs. However, the department states that it is able to absorb these costs at this time.

It will cost the judicial information system \$400 for statewide update, distribution and documentation of statutory changes. Any additional fiscal impact on the judiciary would be proportional to the enforcement of this law and commenced prosecutions. New laws, amendments to existing laws, and new hearings have the potential to increase caseloads in the courts, thus requiring additional resources to handle the increase.

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