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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Steinborn ORIGINAL DATE 2/15/19
LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____
SHORT TITLE Rename Dept. of Game & Fish as Wildlife Dept. SB 203
ANALYST Armstrong

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		\$1,500.0		\$1,500.0	Nonrecurring	Game Protection Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Attorney General (NMAG)

Department of Game and Fish (DGF)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 203 (SB203) renames the Department of Game and Fish as the Wildlife Department and the State Game Commission as the State Wildlife Commission. The bill includes a temporary provision to change statutory references to reflect the agency's new name and transfer duties, staff, funds, and property to the renamed agency.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

According to DGF, this bill would have significant fiscal implications associated with changing the commission and department's name – costing approximately \$1.5 million. These expenses would include but are not limited to: revising and replacing staff uniforms, vehicle decals, trailer wraps and all educational materials (i.e., student manuals, volunteer vests and certification patches), replacing thousands of signs (i.e., property entrance, boundary, access, fishing, shooting range and wildlife awareness), revising business collateral, exhibits and displays, brochures, rebranding the department website, mobile apps, social media, online hunter and wildlife education courses, and online business systems. These changes will require significant staff time to facilitate. Additionally, the department has over 115 years of goodwill built related to the name and associated logo that would be impacted by the change.

JA/gb