

LFC Requester: _____

**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2025 REGULAR SESSION**

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Check all that apply:

Original Amendment _____
Correction _____ Substitute _____

Date Jan 22, 2025
Bill No: SJM 1

Sponsor: Senator Michael Padilla Agency Name and Code: Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department - 521
Short Title: Forest Restoration & Economic Person Writing: Laura McCarthy
Phone: 505-490-2954 Email: Laura.mccarthy@emnrd.nm.gov

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY24	FY25	FY26	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected

Total	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
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(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: The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department and Economic Development Department are directed to jointly study and make recommendations to expedite forest restoration through economic development. The memorial poses four questions to be addressed and requires a report to the Legislature by September 1, 2025.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The Forestry Division has sufficient federal funding for staff time to complete the study as outlined in the memorial.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Currently, New Mexico’s landowners, private industry, and government agencies are not working together well and have been unable to align wildfire mitigation and restoration efforts with forest products based economic development. This memorial will facilitate the three pillars of landowners, industry, and government to move towards a shared goal and understanding of the benefits of restoration to each’s interest. The study questions will result in recommendations that set terms for incentives, legal action, financial mechanisms, and partnerships to expedite forest restoration. The memorial will strengthen cooperation and expedite the restoration of New Mexico’s forest with myriad benefits for people and watersheds. The result will be to greatly improve New Mexico’s leadership in forestry (academically, governmental, and industry) research, processes, and innovation. More importantly this funding will help to prevent further wildfire and watershed disasters.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The timeframe for completing the study and developing recommendations is very short.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ALTERNATIVES

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Not enacting this bill would prevent growth and sustainability in the forestry industry, thereby impacting community wealth and jobs, increasing the state and citizens vulnerability to wildfires and watershed contamination, and acutely slowing the integration needed between the three pillars of landowners, industry, and government who are working to solve these problems on behalf of the citizens of New Mexico.

AMENDMENTS