


 Colorado *Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note*
STATE
FINAL FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 07-0313

Date: June 4, 2007

Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Gibbs
 Sen. Fitz-Gerald

Bill Status: Signed into Law

Fiscal Analyst: Bill Goosmann (303-866-3561)

TITLE: CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A PILOT PROGRAM TO DEMONSTRATE COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACHES TO FOREST RESTORATION.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2007-2008	FY 2008-2009
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures		
Cash Funds		
Perpetual Base Account – Severance Tax Trust Fund	\$0	\$0
FTE Position Change	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE
Effective Date: The bill was signed by the Governor and became law on May 29, 2007.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2007-2008: See the State Appropriations section.		
Local Government Impact: See the Local Government Impact section.		

Summary of Legislation

The bill directs the Colorado State Forest Service and the Division of Forestry (Department of Natural Resources; DNR) to solicit proposals for experimental forest restoration projects that protect water supplies. Proposals should be collaborative, community-based, and include cost-share elements. The state's share on any given project may not exceed 60 percent, and no more than 3 percent of the funds may be used for administrative expenses. Projects may be located on public or private land, but they must be located in an area with an approved "community wildfire protection plan."* The state forest service is assisted in the proposal selection process by a technical advisory panel of 7-11 members appointed by the DNR executive director. A report on the program must be submitted to the Governor by July 1, 2008, at which time the program is repealed.

**Community wildfire protection plans are part of a process established under the federal "Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003" (P.L. 108-148). The plans identify communities that are at risk of damage from wild fires because of the overgrown condition of adjacent forests, whether on public or private land.*

State Expenditures

The bill does not specify appropriations for FY 2007-08. SB 07-122, *Concerning the Funding of Colorado Water Conservation Board Projects*, provides \$1.0 million in funding to implement the grant activities authorized in HB 07-1130. Those funds are derived from the Perpetual Base Account of the Severance Tax Trust Fund.

Local Government Impact

Additional wildfire-related resources will become available to those communities located in or near designated community wildfire protection areas identified in approved reforestation program grants.

State Appropriations

For FY 2007-08, SB 07-122 contains a \$1.0 million cash funds appropriation from the Perpetual Base Account of the Severance Tax Trust Fund to implement HB 07-1130.

Departments Contacted

Natural Resources