

**STATE CONDITIONAL  
FISCAL IMPACT**

**Drafting Number:** LLS 11-0227  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Brown  
 Sen. White

**Date:** April 8, 2011  
**Bill Status:** House Agriculture  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Lauren Ris (303-866-3264)

**TITLE:** CONCERNING THE AUTHORITY OF THE DIVISION OF WILDLIFE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO MANAGE BLACK BEARS.

<b>Fiscal Impact Summary</b>	<b>FY 2011-2012</b>	<b>FY 2012-2013</b>
<b>State Revenue</b> Cash Funds Wildlife Cash Fund	Potential Increase	
<b>State Expenditures</b>		
<b>FTE Position Change</b>		
<b>Effective Date:</b> Upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.		
<b>Appropriation Summary for FY 2011-2012:</b> None required.		
<b>Local Government Impact:</b> None.		

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill repeals the portion of laws enacted pursuant to a 1992 ballot initiative, Amendment 10, that prohibit hunting black bears between March 1 and September 1. The bill re-establishes the Wildlife Commission's authority to determine seasonal black bear hunting restrictions.

**State Revenue**

The bill may increase state revenue from hunting license fees. However, this impact is considered conditional because it depends on a future action of the Wildlife Commission.

*Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife.* The Wildlife Commission could decide to initiate changes to the rules governing black bear hunting as part of its annual rule-making proceedings. If the commission allows spring bear hunting, then the DOW may sell additional bear hunting licenses. However, DOW manages bear hunts by overall mortality, so that if bears were hunted in the spring, fewer licenses would be offered in the fall. The fees for hunting licenses would be credited to the Wildlife Cash Fund. Currently, a fall bear hunting license is \$41 for residents and \$351 for nonresidents.

**Departments Contacted**

Natural Resources