



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 26-1184: SUNSET PROCESS FOREST HEALTH COUNCIL

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Lukens; Mauro
Sen. Cutter

Fiscal Analyst:

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Published for: House Ag., Water & Natural Res.**Drafting number:** LLS 26-0375**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note**Date:** February 12, 2026**Fiscal note status:** The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill continues the Colorado Forest Health Council indefinitely.**Types of impacts.** The bill's impacts are from continuing a program currently scheduled to repeal, which will extend existing fiscal impacts indefinitely in the following areas:

- State Expenditures

Appropriations. No appropriation is required. The Healthy Forest Vibrant Communities Cash Fund is continuously appropriated.

Table 1
Continuation of Current State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures (Cash Funds)	\$3,000	\$3,000
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

These impacts result from continuing a program scheduled to repeal and reflect the extension of current spending levels.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the Colorado Forest Health Council in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is scheduled to repeal on September 1, 2026. The bill continues the council indefinitely, as recommended by the Department of Regulatory Agencies in its [2025 Sunset Review](#) of the council.

Background

The 26-member council meets at least quarterly, and has met as many as nine times in the past few fiscal years. Two of its annual meetings are conducted in person. Although there is no dedicated budget in the DNR to support the council, the continuously appropriated Healthy Forest Vibrant Communities Cash Fund administered by the State Forest Service has historically been used to assist with all meeting and administration costs, and also has been used for one-time special projects. These meeting and administrative expenses have averaged \$3,000 annually.

Continuing Program Impacts

The DNR is expected to continue to have cash fund expenditures of about \$3,000 annually to administer the council. Expenditures are from the Healthy Forest Vibrant Communities Cash Fund. If this bill is enacted, current expenditures will continue for the program starting in FY 2026-27. If allowed to repeal, state expenditures will decrease starting in FY 2026-27 by \$3,000 per year.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Forest Service

Natural Resources

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).