



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 26-165: SPECIES CONSERVATION MEASURES

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Roberts; Pelton R.
Rep. McCormick; Soper

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Published for: Senate Ag. & Natural Resources

Drafting number: LLS 26-0973

Version: Initial Fiscal Note

Date: April 17, 2026

Fiscal note status: This fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill authorizes expenditures in the Department of Natural Resources for a designated list of projects to conserve native species.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas in FY 2026-27:

- State Expenditures

Appropriations. No appropriation is required as the bill provides the necessary spending authority to the Department of Natural Resources.

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts**

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures (Cash Funds)	\$5,000,000	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Funding shown in FY 2026-27 may be spent over multiple fiscal years.

Summary of Legislation

The bill authorizes the use of \$5 million from the Species Conservation Trust Fund (SCTF) for specific programs submitted by the director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The programs are designed to conserve native species that are threatened or endangered under state or federal law, or are likely to become candidate species as determined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The funds authorized are available in FY 2026-27 and remain available for the designated purposes until they are fully spent.

State Expenditures

For FY 2026-27, the bill authorizes expenditures of \$5 million in DNR from the SCTF, which is expected to be spent over multiple fiscal years and remains available until fully expended. Projects are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2
Species Conservation Trust Fund Project Expenditures

Program or Species	FY 2026-27
Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery & San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program	\$2,380,000
Native Terrestrial Wildlife Conservation	\$1,250,000
Native Aquatic Wildlife Conservation	\$1,250,000
Rio Grande Native Fish Protection and Habitat Improvements	\$60,000
Selenium Management, Research, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Control	\$60,000
Total Expenditures	\$5,000,000

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

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](#).