



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 25-1258: SCIENTIFIC WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Prime Sponsors:
Rep. Story; Velasco

Fiscal Analyst:
Alexa Kelly, 303-866-3469
alex.kelly@coleg.gov

Published for: House Ag., Water Nat. Resources
Drafting number: LLS 25-0625

Version: Initial Fiscal Note
Date: February 24, 2025

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

Summary Information

Overview. The bill requires the Parks and Wildlife Commission to utilize the best available wildlife and ecological science to adopt wildlife management rules.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

- Minimal State Revenue
- Minimal State Workload

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

Summary of Legislation

The bill requires the Parks and Wildlife Commission to apply the best available wildlife and ecological science to adopt rules concerning wildlife management. The bill also amends the legislative declaration for Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) to clarify that the state may authorize hunting, trapping, and fishing based on best available science to benefit wildlife, whole ecosystem health, and all Coloradans.

Background

The Parks and Wildlife Commission is a citizen board, appointed by the Governor, which creates regulations and policies for Colorado's state parks and wildlife programs. Members of the commission include sportspersons, agricultural producers, recreationalists, and at-large members. At least four of the 11 members must be from west of the Continental Divide. The commission provides general guidance to CPW, which is responsible for the implementation of any policies set by the commission.

State Revenue and Expenditures

CPW, in the Department of Natural Resources, may see a minimal increase in workload to incorporate best available science into rulemaking procedures. If CPW makes a change to hunting, trapping, or fishing license regulations as a result of the bill's requirements, then a change in revenue would occur. The exact amount of revenue change depends on changes in future license availability and has not been estimated in this analysis.

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

Natural Resources

Law

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](#).