

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 3/13/2012

LRB Number	11-2087/1	Introduction Number	AB-0573	Estimate Type	Original
Description Stewardship funding for grants to control invasive species					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

SUMMARY:

Under the bill, grants to nonprofit conservation organizations, lake districts, and qualified lake associations to control invasive species for nature-based outdoor recreation purposes may be made from the property development and local assistance subprogram of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Under current law, \$7 million of Stewardship funding is used annually, except for fiscal year 2012-13 when \$13 million is used, for property development on DNR owned land, and \$8 million of funding annually is used for local assistance grants. Since the bill authorizes the Department to make grants from Stewardship funding to lake districts, lake associations, and nonprofit conservation organizations (NCOs) for invasive species projects, it may have the effect of reducing the amount of Stewardship development funding spent on state lands.

The authority to transfer Stewardship local assistance grant funding to the AIS grant program may mean that less funding will be available to local governments for land acquisition and development projects. This may result in fewer grants for the acquisition and development of local parks, the acquisition of urban greenspace, the acquisition of development rights, and the acquisition and development of urban river properties.

The Department cannot reliably estimate the amount of Stewardship property development and local assistance funding that would be directed for invasive species grants annually.

Overall, the bill would have no fiscal impact since it would redirect Stewardship funding that has already been authorized to other purposes.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications