

**EXECUTIVE AGENCY
FISCAL NOTE**

AGENCY'S ESTIMATES

Date Prepared: January 21, 2015

Agency Submitting: State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Water Resources

Items of Revenue or Expense, or Both	Fiscal Year 2014-15	Fiscal Year 2015-16	Fiscal Year 2016-17	Effect on Future Biennia
(Expense)		\$41,260	\$41,260	\$81,260
Total	0	\$41,260	\$41,260	\$81,260

Explanation

(Use Additional Sheets of Attachments, if required)

NOT GENERAL FUND, HOWEVER IMPACTS BASIN ASSESSMENTS UPON WHICH THE DIVISION RELIES FOR STAFF AND OPERATIONS.

Name Bonnie Kordonowy

Title Management Analyst III

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION'S COMMENTS

The agency's response appears reasonable.

Date Friday, January 16, 2015

Name Julia Teska

Title Director

State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Water Resources
SB 81

Fiscal Note SB 81

Section 7:

Subsection (2): The cost to designate a groundwater basin as an active management area would cost approximately \$2,000 which is the same as conducting the public hearing required under NRS 534.030. A groundwater basin deemed an active management area would require additional monitoring by the Division of Water Resources. The cost to collect depth to water measurements, perform crop and pumpage inventories and produce an annual reporting is estimated at approximately \$30,000 per year. The funding for this work would be from non-general fund assessments to the groundwater users in the basin as provided for under NRS 534.040. If the State Engineer determines after 10 consecutive years that the groundwater basin continues to be deemed an active management area and is regulated by priority it is anticipated that the cost to monitor the groundwater use would require a full time employee at a cost of \$70,000 per year for salary, per diem and vehicle. These costs would also be borne by non-general fund assessments.

Section 8:

Subsection (3): This section requires the State Engineer to hold a public hearing to take testimony on the groundwater management plan required to avoid regulating groundwater use by priority. The hearing also must be noticed in the newspaper of the county or counties where the groundwater basin is located. The hearing would be recorded by a court reporter and attended by at least three staff members from the Division of Water Resources. This cost associated with the public hearing and travel is difficult to calculate without knowing how many basins would be subject to this bill if passed. The cost for one hearing, per diem and travel expenses are estimated at approximately \$9,260 for one week.