SB 269-FN-A - AS INTRODUCED

2019 SESSION

SENATE BILL 269-FN-A

AN ACT making an appropriation to the department of natural and cultural resources to perform an ecological integrity assessment.

SPONSORS: Sen. Ward, Dist 8; Sen. Watters, Dist 4

COMMITTEE: Energy and Natural Resources

ANALYSIS

This bill makes an appropriation to the department of natural and cultural resources to perform an ecological integrity assessment.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in **bold italics.**
Matter removed from current law appears [in brackets and struckthrough.]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.
AN ACT making an appropriation to the department of natural and cultural resources to perform an ecological integrity assessment.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Appropriation. The sum of $100,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 is hereby appropriated to the commissioner of the department of natural and cultural resources for the development of a new tool called the upland ecological integrity assessment. Such funds shall be nonlapsing and continually appropriated to the commissioner of the department of natural and cultural resources. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect June 30, 2019.
AN ACT making an appropriation to the department of natural and cultural resources to perform an ecological integrity assessment.

FISCAL IMPACT:  [X] State    [ ] County    [ ] Local    [ ] None

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE:</th>
<th>Estimated Increase / (Decrease)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FY 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriation</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Funding Source:   | [X] General  | [ ] Education | [ ] Highway | [X] Other - Natural |
|                  | Heritage Bureau |               |             |                     |

METHODOLOGY:

This bill makes a general fund appropriation of $100,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 to the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR) for the development of a new tool called the upland ecological integrity assessment. DNCR states the tool would be developed for public land managers to identify and dedicate exemplary natural communities; provide information on the ecological integrity of forests; inform resource management decision-making; and could serve as a model of land stewardship on public lands. The estimated cost to complete the project is $150,000, with $100,000 from general funds and $50,000 from the natural heritage bureau to supplement the project, including supporting current staff. DNCR projects expenditure of the $100,000 appropriation in FY 2020 and FY 2021.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Natural and Cultural Resources