

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6322
BILL NUMBER: SB 67

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 8, 2026
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Studies Relating to Natural Lands.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Yoder
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: 2nd Reading - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to study and issue a report on the following topics:

- (1) the impact of natural lands on public health;
- (2) options for a consistent visitor fee collection system at state fish and wildlife areas; and
- (3) a plan to mitigate and recover from natural disasters affecting public lands.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill will increase administrative workload for the DNR's Divisions of State Parks, Forestry, Fish and Wildlife, and Nature Preserves to study the topics in the bill and to issue a report, not later than November 1, 2027. The bill requires the DNR to use existing data, analyses, partnerships, and staff capacity to the greatest extent possible. The bill requires the DNR to use existing appropriations, federal funds, grants, and partnerships, without requiring additional state General Fund appropriations.

The bill allows the DNR to consult with the Indiana Department of Health, Indiana University School of Public Health, and Purdue University; therefore, workload for these entities could increase. These requirements should be able to be accomplished using existing resources.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Local units and emergency management agencies may experience an increased workload to coordinate with the DNR regarding plans to mitigate the impacts of natural disasters on public lands.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Natural Resources; Indiana Department of Health, Indiana University School of Public Health, Purdue University.

Local Agencies Affected: Local units and emergency management agencies.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Heather Puletz, 317-234-9484.