



# SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE

## STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT

(803)734-3780 • RFA.SC.GOV/IMPACTS

*This fiscal impact statement is produced in compliance with the South Carolina Code of Laws and House and Senate rules. The focus of the analysis is on governmental expenditure and revenue impacts and may not provide a comprehensive summary of the legislation.*

---

<b>Bill Number:</b>	S. 108	Introduced on January 12, 2021
<b>Author:</b>	Campsen	
<b>Subject:</b>	Geological Survey Unit of DNR	
<b>Requestor:</b>	Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources	
<b>RFA Analyst(s):</b>	Gallagher	
<b>Impact Date:</b>	February 10, 2021	

---

### Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill expands the duties of the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Geological Survey Unit to require the conduction of topographic mapping using light detection and ranging (LiDar) data collections at least every seven years. The implementation of this bill will increase DNR's recurring General Fund expenditures by a total of \$1,865,722 beginning in FY 2020-21. Of these funds, \$171,857 will be used to hire three employees: two Geologist/Hydrologist IIs and one GIS Manager I. The remaining \$1,693,865 will be used for other operating costs. These costs include contractual services, office space, data storage fees, technology, software, travel for training and certification, landline phones, general office supplies, and workers compensation and tort insurance.

### Explanation of Fiscal Impact

#### Introduced on January 12, 2021

##### State Expenditure

This bill expands the duties of DNR's Geological Survey Unit by requiring the Unit to conduct topographic mapping using light detection and ranging (LiDar) data collections by December 31, 2021, and at least every seven years thereafter. The bill specifically authorizes the unit to work with local, state, and federal governmental entities to complete the topographic mapping. This bill further requires the unit to provide the information collected to DNR's Flood Mitigation Program and to make the topographic maps available to the public via DNR's website. The provisions of this bill are enforceable following General Assembly appropriations in the general appropriations act.

This bill will result in an expenditure increase to DNR's recurring General Fund beginning in FY 2020-21. As a result of this bill, DNR will hire 3.00 FTEs: two Geologist/Hydrologist IIs and one GIS Manager I. The two Geologist/Hydrologist IIs will be responsible for quality assurance and control, development of topographical maps, and the distribution of these maps to the public. The GIS Manager I will be responsible for coordinating the topographical mapping program, contracting of data collection, and the compilation of collected data. Based on DNR entry salaries for each position, the department anticipates this will increase recurring General Fund expenses by \$171,857 beginning in FY 2020-21.

Furthermore, DNR anticipates recurring General Fund expenses of \$1,693,865 beginning in FY 2020-21 for other operating costs as follows:

Summary of Operating Costs	
Operating Categories	Estimated Annual Recurring Costs
Contractual Services	\$1,428,500
Data Center Storage Rent	\$250,000
Office Rent	\$8,960
Technology	\$2,200
Software	\$1,500
Travel	\$1,400
Landline Phones	\$540
Supplies	\$300
Workers Compensation Insurance	\$280
Tort Insurance	\$185
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,693,865</b>

Notes: These estimates are provided by DNR. The contractual services estimate is based on costs of similar undertakings by DNR's GIS section. Office rent is based on an assumed commercial rate of \$16 per square foot and a need for 560 square feet. Data storage rent is for housing data servers at the State Data Center. All other estimates are based on current contract and premium costs.

DNR will use contractual services for engineering services, environmental and historic preservation studies, and auditing services. The department assumes the cost to contract topographical mapping data collection will be \$303 per square mile for the state's approximate 33,000 square miles. The department anticipates that approximately fourteen percent of the state will be topographically mapped using LiDAR technology per year, resulting in each county being updated on a seven-year cycle. Travel expenses will include expenditures related to training, certification, conferences and meetings, and field inspections.

**State Revenue**

N/A

**Local Expenditure**

N/A

**Local Revenue**

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director