

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

4 ENGROSSED SENATE
5 BILL NO. 940

By: Jech of the Senate

and

Dobrinski and **Ranson** of the
House

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10 An Act relating to harmful woody species; directing
11 the Oklahoma Conservation Commission to implement
12 certain plan; requiring certain report to be compiled
13 and presented to Commission by certain date;
14 authorizing the Commission to implement certain plans
15 to assist state agencies; directing the agencies to
16 submit reports each year on progress; defining term;
17 providing for promulgation of rules; providing for
18 codification; providing an effective date; and
19 declaring an emergency.

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

21 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
22 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3-9-100 of Title 27A, unless
23 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

24 A. The Oklahoma Conservation Commission shall implement a
statewide plan for the control, removal, and eradication of harmful
woody species on state-owned, -leased, or -operated land.

1 B. On or before January 1, 2026, a report shall be compiled and
2 presented to the Commission from the Oklahoma Department of
3 Agriculture, Food, and Forestry, the Commissioners of the Land
4 Office, the Department of Wildlife Conservation, the Department of
5 Corrections, the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, the
6 Department of Transportation, and the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority
7 with a comprehensive report to determine the affected inventory and
8 subsequent plan to control, remove, or eradicate harmful woody
9 species from state-owned, -leased, or -operated properties. The
10 Commission shall assist in the administration of the agency's plan
11 and develop any necessary programs to expand the capabilities of
12 each agency's approach to control, remove, or eradicate harmful
13 woody species.

14 C. The agencies specified in subsection B of this section shall
15 electronically submit to the Legislature an annual report by
16 November 1, 2026, and each subsequent year by November 1, detailing
17 the progress of the control, removal, and eradication of harmful
18 woody species on state-owned, -leased, or -operated land.

19 D. As used in this section, "harmful woody species" means a
20 tree or shrub species that is rapidly encroaching into adjoining
21 lands and is likely to cause harm to the environment or economy.
22 Harmful woody species include, but are not limited to, *Juniperus*
23 *virginiana* (Eastern Redcedar), *Juniperus scopulorum* (Rocky Mountain
24

1 juniper), Juniperus monosperma (oneseed juniper), and Tamarix
2 ramosissima (salt cedar).

3 E. The Oklahoma Conservation Commission shall promulgate rules
4 necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

6 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
7 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
8 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
9 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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11 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
12 OVERSIGHT, dated 04/16/2025 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.