
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that invasive species are
2 an immense threat to Hawaii's ecosystem. Invasive species cause
3 not only ecological damage, but harm to the environment,
4 economy, and human health. Hawaii's agriculture, tourism,
5 fisheries, and other industries, as well as its native forests
6 and water supply, suffer economic loss and deterioration due to
7 the negative impacts of invasive species on the environment.

8 The legislature also finds that many invasive plants are
9 extremely aggressive and out compete native plant species.
10 Invasion of non-native tree species like the albizia, ironwood,
11 and autograph trees have overtaken other native species in
12 Hawaii's forests and landscape. Albizia, like many other
13 invasive plant species, grows rapidly. Particularly during
14 storms, these invasive trees negatively impact drainage
15 facilities and waterways. Erosion caused by these trees also
16 affects water quality and causes flooding.



H.B. NO. 1136

1 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
2 land and natural resources, in conjunction with the counties, to
3 develop an invasive species flood control plan to prevent,
4 contain, and mitigate hazardous tree growth impacting streams
5 and waterways.

6 SECTION 2. (a) The department of land and natural
7 resources, in conjunction with the counties, shall develop an
8 invasive species flood control plan to prevent, contain, and
9 mitigate hazardous tree growth impacting streams and waterways.

10 (b) The plan shall include identifying:

11 (1) Ways to better coordinate efforts and make use of
12 limited resources to prevent, contain, and mitigate
13 hazardous tree growth impacting streams and waterways,
14 including tree debris removal;

15 (2) High priority areas, objectives, and tasks to contain
16 and clear hazardous tree growth;

17 (3) Ways to restore native species and habitat conditions
18 in ecosystems that have been invaded; and

19 (4) Flood control and other safety measures to address the
20 potential damage and damage caused to communities,



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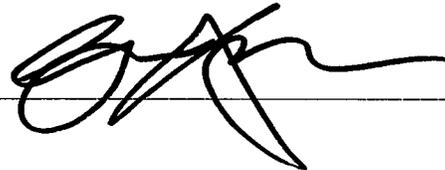
1 particularly during storms, by hazardous tree growth
2 impacting streams and waterways.

3 (c) The department of land and natural resources, in
4 conjunction with the counties, shall submit the plan, including
5 findings, recommendations, and any proposed legislation, to the
6 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
7 the regular session of 2022.

8 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

9

INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 26 2021



H.B. NO. 1136

Report Title:

DLNR; Counties; Invasive Species Flood Control Plan

Description:

Requires the department of land and natural resources, in conjunction with the counties, to develop an invasive species flood control plan to prevent, contain, and mitigate hazardous tree growth impacting streams and waterways. Requires submittal of the plan to the legislature prior to the 2022 regular session.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

