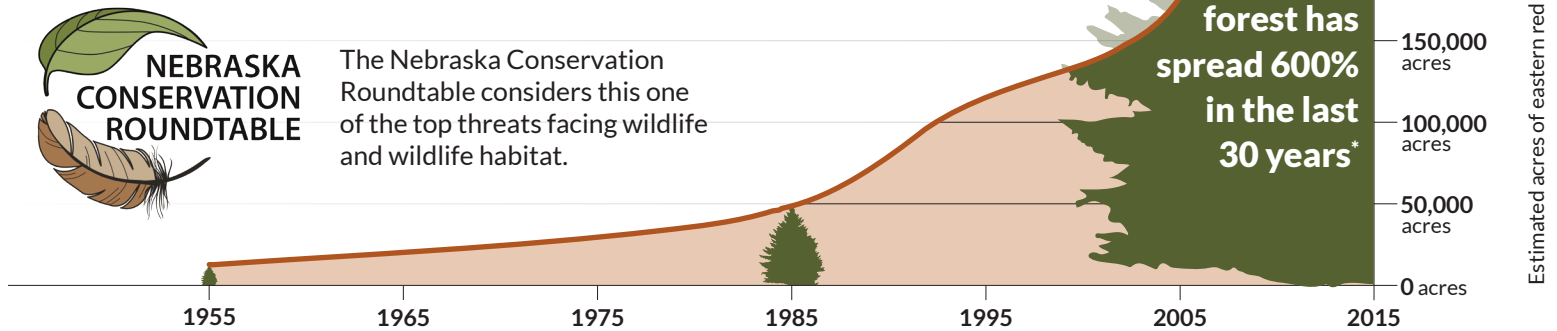


Cedar Spread At Tipping Point

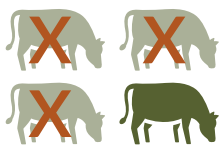
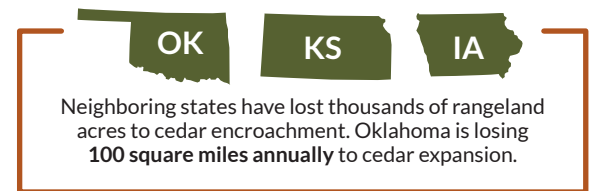
Nebraska is losing its prairie to the rapid expansion of cedar trees



How cedar spread is costing Nebraska:

\$15 million

every year will be needed just to maintain current grassland levels by clearing 25,000 acres in the state.



Livestock production decreases by 75% when grasslands are overrun by cedar trees.



Since 2006, Nebraska schools have spent \$2.4 million fighting cedar invasion.



Wildfire risk increases in areas of dense cedar cover, threatening homeowners.



Grassland bird populations decline rapidly when cedar cover reaches 10%.



Stream flow is reduced by 1/3 in areas of cedar encroachment compared to grasslands.

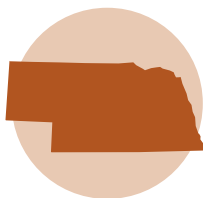
How we can solve this:



Expand cedar removal, including mechanical means, cost-share, economic incentives, prescribed fire, and technical assistance programs.



Educate landowners and the general public about the risks of cedar spread, cedar management, and the programs available to help them remove cedar trees on their land.



Establish priority areas of immediate threat where the cedar spread is most severe but still reversible.



Explore development of opportunities to promote economic incentives and drivers for cedar removal, processing and management.

*Approximately
Sources: UNL Eastern Redcedar Science Literacy Project, <https://agronomy.unl.edu/eastern-redcedar-science-literacy-project/impacts>
US Forest Service FIA 2016