



Date: 5-11-2021
Contact: Calli-Jane DeAnda
Website: Buttefiresafe.net
Phone: (530) 877-0984

Press Release

Goats Graze for Wildfire Safety

Blue Oak Terrace Homeowners Association

Homeowners near lower Paradise in the Blue Oak Terrace Owners Association can expect to see over 1,000 goats grazing on the peninsula adjacent to the Skyway east bound corridor over the next month as part of a fuels reduction project managed by the local non-profit Butte County Fire Safe Council.

The grazing will improve the community's wildfire safety by grazing areas where thick brush and ladder fuels were thinned by mechanized equipment last year. The area had been severely burned by the 2018 Camp Fire. The project builds upon areas recently grazed around Magalia Reservoir, Pine Ridge Elementary School, West Branch of the Feather River, and Lakeland in Oroville.

Aside from their nimbleness, goats are a useful fuels reduction method since they mimic natural grazers and return some of the ecosystem processes back to the land. "The goats are a great way to keep fire hazardous vegetation at bay and are helping enhance evacuation safety along the skyway." says Calli-Jane DeAnda, Executive Director of the Butte County Fire Safe Council (BCFSC).

The goats are being managed by a local herder and have water on sight. They are moved through the treatment areas by herdsman and herd dogs. "We are really happy with how the goats are able to navigate the post fire environment. With all the regrowth we have seen in the last two years and invasion of non-native species, the goats are a crucial tool" says Jeff Gould, Program Manager with the BCFSC.

If you are interested in joining the grazing effort on your property or want to know more about wildfire safety, contact BCFSC phone: 530-877-0984, e-mail: jgould@buttefiresafe.net or visit our website: www.buttefiresafe.net.
