Good morning,

I attended the House special committee on Wildfire recovery last night. As I have stated in previous emails, I have concerns regarding weed control as a measure to prevent future Almeda Fires. I have brought to the committee attention that weed abatement needs to be addressed. I also have a solution to overgrown weeds; goats.

Goats are now being widely used by private and public lands to control weed growth. 1. Goats are natural and do not pose the threats to our environment like widespread herbicide use does.

- 2. Goats eat everything in their path, weeds, black berry bushes, basically anything in reach.
- 3. Goats can be used in high fire danger areas where machines, like lawn mowers, may cause sparking and increase the risk of fire.
- 4. No need to hire a team of humans with machines for several hours everyday. One person with a herd of goats for a day has to be less money than the man hours it would cost to have a team of city, county and/or state employees out with weed wackers and broadcast herbicide sprayers.

I have included a few articles on the matter for your convenience.

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2_029102.pdf goats-weeds.pdf (colostate.edu)

Goats Weed Control | Directory Categories | EMSWCD

Goat Grazing Project - Archuleta County Extension (colostate.edu)

Targeted grazing: using goats for weed control (calgary.ca)

Rangelands (arizona.edu)

Again, thank you for your time and allowing public input. I simply want to prevent the extreme heartache and loss from happening to anyone else.

Jamie Cameron