



City of Paso Robles
5/5/2026
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Paso Robles
Fire and Emergency Services
900 Park Street
805-227-7560

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION
Grazing the Salinas Riverbed

PASO ROBLES, CA – The City of Paso Robles announces the return of goats and sheep to graze primary firebreaks within the Salinas River corridor. The herds arrived on Friday, May 1, 2026.

Prescribed grazing is an approved method under the City’s Vegetation Management Program to reduce wildfire risk. It has been selected for its proven effectiveness and minimal environmental impact. Since implementing this strategy in 2021, City fire officials have observed a measurable reduction in fire starts and total acres burned. Annual operations continue to demonstrate the program’s effectiveness in reducing fire threats to the community.

With support from the San Luis Obispo County Fire Safe Council, the City will continue to manage seasonal vegetation growth and maintain established firebreaks within the Salinas River. Work will prioritize areas of highest fire risk before expanding as resources allow. Grazing began south of the Niblick Bridge and will progress north, while a second herd will begin north of Highway 46 and move south. Operations are expected to be completed on or before June 10, 2026.

To establish and maintain these firebreaks, the City secured required permits from the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. In April, the City demonstrated compliance with the conditions of its initial authorization, and was issued an open permit to continue mitigation operations.

Portions of the multi-use path between 13th Street and the Niblick Bridge may be temporarily closed as grazing progresses. The public is encouraged to continue using the area but should exercise caution around electric fencing used to contain the animals and avoid contact with the fencing.



Hazardous Fuel Reduction





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