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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 5, 2024

## Contact: Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resources Manager or (530) 896-7800

## \*\*\*MEDIA ALERT\*\*\*

## GOATS ARE BACK IN LINDO CHANNEL

(Chico, CA – September 5, 2024 –). Starting tomorrow, September 6, 2004, goats will be grazing in Lindo Channel between Manzanita Ave. to Highway 99. This effort is part of the Lindo Channel Defensible Space Project that is funded by a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Program Grant.

The purpose is to reduce vegetation fuel loads and provide defensible space to properties along both sides of Lindo Channel. However, due to biological and wildlife concerns, no grazing will occur near the Federally protected elderberry bushes, or within the channel waterway. In addition to reducing fuel loads, goat grazing has proven to be a very effective vegetation management tool as goats eat star thistle, poison oak, and many other invasive plants.

Through a competitive bid process, Capra Environmental Services Corp. will be providing hundreds of goats, which potentially can graze approximately one acre per day. Grazing areas will be cordoned off with an electric fence and warning signs will be posted throughout for public safety. A herdsman and guard dogs will also be onsite 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Where possible, paths and trails will remain open to the public while the grazing occurs, but some trails and areas may need to be closed. Park users are requested to please do not enter closed areas, to stay clear of and keep children and pets away from the electric fencing, and to not feed or disturb the goats and guard dogs.

The project in anticipated to be completed in two to three weeks. The goats will also be brought back to Lindo Channel in the Spring and Fall of 2025.

For more information, please contact the Park Division office at 530-896-7800 or email parkinfo@chicoca.gov.