



**NEWS RELEASE**  
**City of Chico**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** July 26, 2023

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

## **GOATS ARE BACK IN BIDWELL PARK**

**Chico, CA – (July 26, 2023)** - Goats have resumed grazing in Bidwell Park to help remove invasive vegetation and to reduce fire risk. The area currently being grazed is Middle Bidwell Park, which includes the Horse Arena area, the area between Manzanita Avenue and Sycamore Diversion, and Lindo Channels. After the Middle Park area is completed, the goats will be moved to areas of Lower Park as funding allows.

Capra Environmental Services Corp. is providing 200-500 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 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.

Goat grazing has proven to be a very effective vegetation management tool as goats will eat star thistle, poison oak, and many other non-native plants. They also elevate the vegetation, which helps reduce the risk of ladder fuels.

For more information, please contact the Park Division office at 530-896-7800 or email [parkinfo@chicoca.gov](mailto:parkinfo@chicoca.gov).

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