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**From:** William Hart, Project Manager [William@goldridgercd.org](mailto:William@goldridgercd.org)

**Project Title:** LandSmart Grazing Program for Community Resilience at Ya-Ka-Ama

**Project Applicant:** Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District

**Project Location:** 7465 Steve Olson Lane

**Project Location – City:** Forestville

**Project Location – County:** Sonoma

**Description of the Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:** The proposed project will utilize contracted prescribed herbivory crews to reduce vegetation fuels on the Ya-Ka-Ama property. The Project site includes a total of approximately eight (8) acres of non-native shrub and California Annual and Perennial Grassland landscape.

A mixture of prescribed herbivory and adaptive management will be employed in the project area. The livestock will graze the same area a last year to maintain the vegetation. This will allow for continued fuel reduction and necessary clearing in preparation for cultural burning. Grazer is encouraged to densely pack the livestock to rigorously target the intended vegetation. Grazer is also encouraged to employ adaptive management via monitoring of the project area. Adaptive management is the process whereby management is initiated, evaluated, and refined (Holling, 1978). Ya Ka Ama's land stewardship goal is to utilize grazing to arrest the development of the french broom in the project area but not cause overgrazing that results in soil erosion via water or wind. Prescribed herbivory (also known as “targeted grazing” [ASI 2006, Macon 2019]) is the use of domestic livestock to accomplish specific and measurable vegetation management objectives. Those would include things like removing biomass (fine fuel loads), reducing populations of specific plant species, slowing the re-establishment of shrubs on burned or mechanically thinned sites, and improving plant community structure for wildlife habitat values.

- Hand work is defined as the physical act of felling and removing targeted trees, by hand and on foot only, i.e., without the aid of any type of vehicle.
- Adaptive management means effectiveness or validation monitoring after application of a treatment performed to the extent feasible, recognizing fiscal constraints, the need for ongoing access to property, and staff availability.

- Parcel Boundary
- Area of Interest



8 acres

0 500 1,000 Feet