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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 Site TCR

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

**Project Location:** 6750 Giovanetti Road

**Project Location – City:** Forestville

**Project Location – County:** Sonoma

**Description of the Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:** The proposed project will utilize prescribed herbivory to reduce vegetation fuels on the Site TCR property. The Project site includes a total of approximately ten and a half (10.6) acres of shrub, mixed conifer, and hardwood forest landscape.

A mixture of prescribed herbivory and adaptive management will be employed in the project area. The removal of this woody vegetation is necessary to improve overall health and vigor of the project area. Shrubs and vines that are considered invasive, or undesirable will be removed to create fuel and fire breaks. Target nonnative shrubs and small diameter trees shall be browsed, chomped, and trampled, resulting in a reduction of vegetation. The contractor will utilize electric fences and hand tools like loppers, hand saws, and pruners. Safety equipment will be worn by the contractor when performing this work. No grubbing of root systems or any other type of soil disturbance shall occur as part of these activities. Miscellaneous debris can be left on the ground as long as it does not impact the growth of native vegetation and/or does not impact land management. Grazer is encouraged to employ adaptive management via monitoring of the project area.

- 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.