

A large herd of goats, including white, brown, and black ones, is grazing in a wooded area. The ground is covered with dry leaves and twigs, and there are many dead trees scattered throughout the scene. The background is filled with green trees.

**Michael Scialdone, Scial
Pueblo of Sandia - Bosque Program**

Max Wade

Owner – Galloping Goats

**Presentation – Using goats for weed control &
fuels reduction in the Bosque**

Science Symposium – February 13, 2024

BACKGROUND

Max connected with Todd Haines of NM State Forestry about utilizing goats on the landscape as a means of fuels reduction

- Contractors with the State work out price agreements for various activities they will perform.
- “Targeted Grazing” was accepted as a suitable method with NM State Forestry and a price agreement was worked out for “light” and “heavy” grazing areas.



The Pueblo of Sandia was contacted by Todd and the Pueblo agreed to open up a demonstration area in their Bosque.

- The demonstration went well. Further funding came through the next round of the Forest and Watershed Restoration Act.
- A recent award from NM State Forestry to the Pueblo includes a contract with Galloping Goats for another 100+ acres through June 2025.
- Goats are hauled to the Pueblo daily. They are penned in by a mobile electric fence.





Metal fencing is used on smaller areas.

- This area was targeted to see how well the goats would go after Siberian elm.
- They looooooved it.
- This will not kill the elm since they are able to resprouts from their roots (suckering).

- The Pueblo's Bosque Crew will do follow-up spraying on the resprouts.
- This is TRUE fuels reduction. The biomass is effectively removed from the system.



AFTER

Same story for Russian olive

- This will not kill the elm since they are able to resprouts from their roots (suckering).
- But they went right after it and didn't seem affected by the thorns.
- Again – TRUE fuels reduction through biomass removal.



Before Goats



After Goats



Before Goats



After Goats



Before Goats



After Goats





Before Goats



After Goats

And they're cute!!!



Questions?

