

Communication from Public

Name: San Fernando Valley Audubon Society

Date Submitted: 06/22/2022 06:08 PM

Council File No: 22-0600-S61

Comments for Public Posting: The San Fernando Valley Audubon Society strongly supports CF 22-0600-S61: Instruct the Department of Recreation and Parks to report to the Arts, Parks, Health, Education, and Neighborhoods Committee on the feasibility of using wildlife, specifically goats, to support brush clearance activities in parks. Please see attached letter.



SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
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June 21, 2022

Mayor Eric Garcetti
Los Angeles City Council

Regarding Council Files [CF22-0600-S61](#) and [CF22-0600-S20](#):

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

San Fernando Valley Audubon Society wishes to express its strong support for these two measures. We urge the Arts, Parks, Health, Education, and Neighborhoods Committee to consider [CF22-0600-S61](#) and pass it on to the entire City Council. We urge the Public Safety Committee to consider [CF22-0600-S20](#) and pass it on to the entire City Council.

Goat grazing is an excellent solution to the need to control large stands of highly flammable invasive weeds, where weed removal by hand is impractical and the use of mechanical devices is either too destructive or impractical.

Limiting the spread of wildfire by controlling flammable weeds is crucial, especially in these days of global warming and the pervasive presence of unhoused, mentally unstable, or merely careless individuals. Global warming has increased the spread of wildfires once they have been ignited while the incidence of fires being ignited has greatly increased. Following goat grazing, the amount of flammable material is greatly reduced and the soil is left fertilized and only lightly disturbed.

The use of goats to control the flammable weeds in our urban-wild interface areas will be a significant step in protecting, preserving, and expanding our precious habitat and park lands. Uncontrolled fires can destroy years of work in a heartbeat. We see more and more cases of wildfires spreading through residential communities which were previously considered safe. For all these reasons, we at SFVAS urge the Los Angeles City Council to expeditiously consider, and further approve and implement these goat-grazing programs whenever feasible.

Sincerely,

Paula Orlovich
President
54warbler@gmail.com

*[CF22-0600-S20](#) - "Instruct the Fire Department to report to the Public Safety Committee on potential partnerships with the Conservation Corps for brush clearance efforts and other outside entities that use goats to eliminate invasive and overgrown brush."

*[CF22-0600-S61](#) - "Instruct the Department of Recreation and Parks to report to the Arts, Parks, Health, Education, and Neighborhoods Committee on the feasibility of using wildlife, specifically goats, to support brush clearance activities in parks."

Cc:

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