

SAN DIEGO MUNICIPAL CODE
PRELIMINARY DRAFT GOAT AMENDMENTS
August 2, 2004

Chapter 4: Health and Sanitation
Article 4: Disease Control –Nuisances
Division 3: Animals

44.0307 Cattle, Goat and Sheep

No person shall bring or maintain, within a non-agricultural area within the City, any cattle, bovine animals, goats or sheep, except as specifically permitted in Sections 44.0307.2 and 44.0307.3

44.0307.1 Cattle, Goats and Sheep, Condition of Premises

Droppings from cattle, goats or sheep shall not be permitted to accumulate so as to create a health or sanitation problem, or the breeding of flies, or the potential for discharge into the storm water system.

44.0307.2 Cattle, Exemption

Dairies or dairy farms licensed as such by Section 31.0376 at any time during the month of July, 1953, shall be exempt from the prohibition contained in Section 44.307 to the extent of the maximum number of such animals maintained during any month in the immediately preceding calendar year.

44.0307.3 Goats, Exemption

- (a) Goats brought in temporarily to privately-owned non-agricultural areas for the purpose of performing brush management for fire prevention per Article 2, Division 4, Landscape Regulations, Section 142.0412 et seq, Brush Management, shall be exempted from the provisions of Section 44.0307 only in compliance with the following criteria:
- (1) All brush management to be performed shall be by a *competent goat contractor or owner.*
 - (2) All residents with property located adjacent to the area to be browsed by goats for brush management shall be notified, in writing, at least 10 business days prior to beginning operation. Such notice shall include the criteria allowing the use of goats, as identified in this Section.
 - (3) The owner of any property—including any public agency--through which the goats must gain access to the brush management area shall be notified and shall have agreed to such access in writing at least 10 business days prior to beginning operation.

- (4) No more than 75 goats per acre shall be permitted to browse in an area at any one time.
- (5) The area to be browsed by goats shall be measured, staked, and appropriately fenced with temporary low-voltage electric fencing to delineate the maximum 100-foot from habitable structure brush management area permitted by Section 142.0412(a). Signs must be posted at 25-foot intervals along the fence warning of the possibility of mild electric shock.
- (6) Goats shall be within a secure enclosure at all times. They may be moved to a separate holding pen at night, which shall be located as far as possible from residences. In addition to the requirements of Section 44.0307.1, droppings in the holding pen shall be removed and properly disposed of daily.
- (7) Goats shall be monitored 24 hours per day by a *competent goat contractor or owner*, potentially in conjunction with properly trained guardian dogs, to prevent escapes, harassment from predators or humans, or over-browsing.
- (8) Goats shall be moved along periodically so that no more than 50% of the vegetation in any one area is thinned or reduced, as required per Section 142.0412 (h).
- (9) No use of goats for brush management shall occur in coastal sage scrub habitat during the nesting season of the California gnatcatcher, March 1-August 15.
- (10) The goats shall only be used temporarily for brush management, and shall be immediately removed when the brush thinning has been accomplished. They may not be kept on a permanent basis within the City of San Diego non-agricultural areas.
- (11) The responsible party for purposes of compliance with these regulations shall be the owner of the property upon which the goats are deployed. Over-browsing by goats beyond the 50% thinning requirement may result in the property owner being required to revegetate the area with appropriate native or naturalized plants in compliance with Section ____.
- (12) Any violation of these regulations may be inspected and enforced by the City of San Diego Fire-Rescue Department, Fire Prevention Bureau. Documentation as required by this Section must be made available by the property owner for inspection by the Fire-Rescue Department on request.

- (b) Goats brought in temporarily by the City of San Diego for the purpose of performing brush management for fire prevention on City-owned non-agricultural areas in compliance with Article 2, Division 4, Landscape Regulations, Section 142.0412 et seq, Brush Management, or for weed abatement, shall be exempted from the provisions of Section 44.0307 only in compliance with criteria (a) (1) – (10) above.

44.0307.4 Definitions

Competent Goat Contractor or Owner shall mean a person who has at least two years experience in the raising, handling and controlling of goats, and carries a minimum of \$_____ of liability insurance.

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