



## **Herd Health Protocol- Chasin Goat Grazing LLC (CGG)**

Grazing livestock have three basic impacts on the landscape. They consume vegetation through grazing, they trample vegetation (which can facilitate the breakdown of plant carbon in the soil), and they transfer nutrients through defecation and urination. Targeted grazing uses all three impacts to accomplish specific vegetation management goals.

Grazing operators develop protocols to ensure the health and safety of their animals while meeting natural resource goals. Basic animal care practices support animal well-being and assist grazers in developing ethical and cost-efficient protocols. Practices vary between grazers, species, and lands grazed.

Protocols should be developed by every grazing operator to ensure the health and safety of their animals and that natural resources goals are met. Basic animal care practices can support animal well-being and assist grazers in evaluating husbandry practices and offer practices that are ethical and cost efficient. Practices will vary between grazers, species and lands grazed.

The Chasin Goat Grazing LLC (CGG) has developed the following protocols for grazing properties in the City of Healdsburg.

### **Animal Management**

The health and well-being are the most important aspect of a grazing operation. Keeping animals healthy will help maintain the viability of the operation while maintaining animal welfare of each and every animal.

### **Feeding & Nutrition**

Animals are provided a balanced ration that meets their nutrient requirements. The nutrients include energy, protein, fiber, vitamins and minerals. Nutrients that are not provided through consumption of vegetation are supplemented to ensure a balanced diet.

### **Body Condition Score for Goats**

Chasin Goats LLC will conduct body condition scoring on animals grazing in the Sonoma County area. Body condition score can range from 1-5. 1 being the slimmest condition and 5 being considered an obese condition. CGG's optimal body condition score for every animal in each herd is 2.5- 4. A body condition score of 5 would also be permitted. If CGG notices a body condition score of 2 or lower, CGG will cull these members of the herd.

#### **Definition of Scale**

BCS 1: Emaciated, Very thin



BCS 2: Lean

BCS 3: Average, "Nice Shape"

BCS 4: Fleshy, "bloomy", Fat

BCS 5: Obese, Very Fat

It is important to recognize that animals will have different stages of body condition score based on their stage of production

#### Stage of Production Optimum BCS

Maintenance 2

Breeding 3

Early Gestation 2+

Late Gestation 3

Lambing 3+

Weaning 2

#### **Water**

Fresh water is provided through water troughs. Trough and holding tanks are checked more frequently during hot weather. Livestock are not without access to water for more than 24 hours (including time spent in corrals, loading, and transportation).

#### **CGG Protocol for Water for Herd Size of 400 animals**

- 1) If immediate access to water is not permitted a 500 Gallon water wagon placed close to the herd or in an area easily accessible for smaller tanks to transport water;
- 2) When the water wagon is 3/4 empty a herder will call a foreman to come and replenish water in water wagon;
- 3) CGG will provide at least 2, 7 0-gallon water troughs with the herd at all times. Troughs will be filled using the water from the water wagon. When the water wagon is not located in close proximity to the troughs, then CGG will use secondary containers to move water to the water troughs. At times it is possible for one trough to be empty, however a CGG employee will be present to refill the empty trough in a timely manner.

#### **Supplemental Feed**

The following supplemental feed will be provided:

- 1) Protein Tubs: 16% protein with trace minerals and other supplements
- 2) Salt Blocks



## On Call Supplemental Feed

- 1) Hay: Including but not limited to varieties such as Alfalfa, Orchard Grass and Oat
- 2) High protein Grain: 14-16% crude protein

## Health Care

Producers manage grazing animals to prevent or reduce the incidence of disease. Producers have a licensed veterinarian assist in the design and implementation of their herd health program. The herd health program addresses the prevention and treatment of disease.

## CGG Protocol for sick animals on the job

- 1) CGG Employee notices an animal that may be experience health related symptoms (cough, runny nose, diarrhea, etc.);
- 2) CGG Employee will notify the herder or foreman in charge of the job, if they are not currently in that position;
- 3) The animal will be assessed and a plan of action will be completed to treat the animal. During the plan of action, the following completed and considered;
  - 4) The animal will receive a complete health check by the herder;
  - 5) If the animal does not need substantial medical attention and is considered to be in good overall health the animal will remain with the herd and be treated in accordance to the approved plan;
    - Animals may be doctored with the readily available medication deemed appropriate at the time per case by case basis.
  - 6) If the health check by the herdsman concludes that the animal needs increased medical attention or needs to be quarantined, the following considerations will be determined on a case by case basis:
    - Animals may be quarantined or receive increased medical attention by separating the animal from the herd and keeping it under a close eye near a herdsman's trailer. If the condition worsens at any time, the animal may be removed from the property if deemed necessary by CGG;
    - If deemed necessary to remove the animal(s), they will be picked up in a timely manner. CGG will have 24 hours from notification of the need to remove and relocated an animal to a CGG facility for further inspection/medical attention by CGG employee or veterinarian;



- In the case that a veterinarian has inspected an animal, a CGG employee will follow the veterinarian's recommended procedure. When the approved procedure has been completed and the animal looks to be in adequate health; a CGG employee will call the veterinarian to verify that the animal can go back on the job.

Injured or diseased animals are separated from the flock and receive prompt medical attention by the operator and/or herder. These animals remain isolated until fully recovered. Readily available medications listed in the Appendix.

### **Euthanasia**

A non-ambulatory animal is one that is incapable of standing or walking without assistance. Every grazing operation will occasionally have to handle animals that are acutely diseased or injured and unable to walk. Handling sick and non-ambulatory animals will be done with a minimum of force and trauma. Any terminally ill or fatally injured animals will be humanely euthanized without delay.

### **Disposal of Dead Animals**

On rare occasions, animals may die due to natural causes. Upon discovery of a deceased animal, the grazer or herder will remove the carcass from the active grazing area to an isolation site, and dispose of the carcass within 24 hours of discovery.

In the event that an animal dies due to unforeseen circumstances, the CGG employee will notify the herdsmen/ foremen immediately. After the notification, the herdsmen will remove the animal from the herd and transport it to a secondary location as soon as possible. The herdsmen/ foremen will notify the CGG company immediately and the deceased animal will be removed from the property within 24 hours of the notice.

### **Handling & Transportation**

Animals are handled in a manner that minimizes stress. Grazing animals have panoramic vision – they are able to see nearly all the way around except directly behind them. To induce movement, a handler usually approaches from the side rather than from directly in front of or behind the animal. When approaching animals from any direction, a low, quiet voice will prevent the animal from being startled.

When livestock cannot be herded (walked) from one location to another, hauling is necessary. Trailers are well ventilated. Floor surfaces are covered shavings, matting, or other materials to enhance traction and stability. Good sanitation practices help prevent disease in both grazing animals and humans.



## **Protection from Predators**

Sheep and goats are vulnerable to a number of predators (including coyotes, mountain lions, black bears, and domestic dogs). Grazers will utilize a combination of tools to protect livestock. These tools are appropriate to the degree of predator threat, as well as to the human environment where the livestock are grazing. These tools may include electric fencing, guardian animals (dogs, llamas, or donkeys), FoxLights™, or other devices that deter predation. If guardian animals are utilized, they are provided with appropriate health care, nutrition, and access to water.

- 1) If CGG feels that protection of the herd is necessary from predators, CGG will place Great Pyrenees dogs with the herd. These locations will be selected at the discretion of CGG;
- 2) Dogs will be fed 2 - 3 times per day. The time of feedings is at the discretion of CGG.

## **Electric Fencing**

Grazing operators typically use electric fencing to contain livestock. Signage will be utilized to inform the public of the electric fencing. Fences are typically only off when moving livestock or when the operator or his/her employee(s) are entering the paddock.

## **Herder/Employee Expectations**

Grazing company employees are trained in the operation's specific animal husbandry protocols. Employees also receive the necessary equipment and supplies to care for the animals (including dogs) under their supervision.

### **Herder Provisions**

Each CGG individual herd shall be comprised of approximately 400 animals or less:

- There shall be 1 herder per 400 animals or less.
- If the herd exceeds more than 400 animals, a second herder will be added to help facilitate and watch the herd.

## **Housing for Herders**

- 1) Housing for herders will be in a location where the herder can walk or use an Off Road Vehicle (ATV) to check on animals, water, and fencing.



## **Herdsmen Training**

- 1) Training will be conducted yearly for all CGG employees;
- 2) Herders will be trained on the following:
  - a) Body Condition Scoring
  - b) Animal Welfare
  - c) Safe Handling Practices for animals and CGG employees
  - d) How to administer health checks to animals
  - e) How to safely administer readily available and on call medications
  - f) Critical and non-critical care for animals
- 3) CGG will keep a record of official documents stating that employees have attended and completed the company provided training class held by CGG. This document will be approved and signed by a minimum of two CGG board members.

## **Signs**

CGG will provide signs stating the company name and contact information. The signs will be located around the targeted grazing locations which are visible to the public. Additional signs may include, but are not limited to:

- Informing the public that there are working dogs in the area
- Informing the public of electric fence (posted every 20-25 feet hanging from fence when in use)
- Inform the public not to feed grazing animals
- Informing the public to keep personal dogs/ pet on leashes

## **APPENDIX**

### **Readily Available Medication**

- 1) LA 300 ( oxytetracycline injectable )
- 2) Nuflor (Florfenicol)
- 3) Oxytocin
- 4) 3.5 % Iodine
- 5) Injectable dewormer (Dectomax, Ivermectin or Safeguard)
- 6) Safe Guard oral
- 7) Bose
- 8) Blu- Kote 5 oz
- 9) Baytril 100 (Enrofloxacin)
- 10) Banamine (Flunixin Meglumine Injection)



### **Bi annual Vaccination for Goats**

- 1) C,D&T
- 2) Bose
- 3) Multimin 90
- 4) Oral dewormer
- 5) Topical dewormer
- 6) Mannheimia Haemolytica Pasteurella Multocida Bacterin (used to prevent Pasteurellosis; respiratory disease/pneumonia)

### **Bi annual Vaccination for sheep**

- 1) CD&T
- 2) Bose
- 3) Oral dewormer
- 4) Topical dewormer
- 5) Mannheimia Haemolytica Pasteurella Multocida Bacterin (used to prevent Pasteurellosis; respiratory disease/pneumonia)