

starcreeklandstewards.com



 @starcreeklandstewards

## Who We Are

Mother + Daughter, 3rd & 4th generation Basque Sheep Ranchers now operating a Targeted Grazing Business. We apply our years of livestock handling & knowledge to perform effective & restorative vegetation management. Together with our Expert Sheep Boss & team of Peruvian Managers & Herders we care for lands and livestock throughout the state.

## Our Animals

Our outfit uses both Boer Goats & Dorper Sheep. We decide which species to use on a project based on the vegetation present. We will be utilizing an all male goat herd on this project because they are best equipped to handle the dense vegetation.

More brush = more goats.

More grasses = more sheep.

We also use both Great Pyreneese Livestock Guardian Dogs to protect our herds from predation & trained Border Collie Herding Dogs to work with our animals.

## Wildfire Preparation

Grass and brush can create ample wildfire fuel.

Targeted Grazing is a natural alternative to machinery & chemicals that will not only cut the vegetation, but remove it. Livestock graze the land while replenishing the soil with natural fertilizers (manure). Much of our goal here is to reduce the amount of brush on the property to give more opportunity for grasses to grow in the future. Grazing is a historical land management tool that has been utilized for centuries by communities & cultures around the world.

## What We Do

Develop grazing programs to reduce wildfire by creating or maintaining fuel breaks, controlling undesirable vegetation, reducing brush, improving wildlife habitat with a herd catered to each unique project. We work to thin out thick brush thickets that overtime, will become less dense and less productive after the disturbance of goat grazing.

## Electric Fences

Our animals are contained in electric netted fences. These solar powered fences are designed to keep the animals in specific areas, so they can accurately graze the targeted area, and keep predators and you out. This insures an even graze of the entire property and a more thorough job. It is important not to touch or cross the fence for any reason and also keep pets and others from doing so.

## Protecting Animal Habitat and Invasive Plant Species

In many projects, we work with local professionals to survey the property prior to ANY work being done. We work very hard to respect the ecosystems we graze in, our goal being to improve those ecosystems, not harm them. That can mean grazing at specific times of the year to target invasive plant species when they are most vulnerable, helping to eradicate the species and allow natives to thrive. It can also mean avoiding sensitive animal habitats like bird nesting sites. Our work begins long before the animals arrive and we aim to work in harmony with wildlife.