

2026
3/4/26

RESOLUTION NO. 2026- 21

A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ROCK SPRINGS ACCEPTING AND APPROVING A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ROCK SPRINGS, WYOMING, AND LS5 LIVESTOCK COMPANY, LLC (LS5) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$92,000.00, FOR TARGETED GRAZING AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ALONG KILLPECKER CREEK, AND AUTHORIZING MAX MICKELSON, AS MAYOR, AND MATTHEW L. MCBURNETT, AS CITY CLERK, TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF ROCK SPRINGS.

WHEREAS, the City of Rock Springs is responsible for the management and maintenance of public lands, drainage corridors, and waterways within its municipal boundaries in order to protect public health, safety, and welfare; and,

WHEREAS, the Killpecker Creek corridor and adjacent areas within the City contain significant growth of noxious weeds and undesirable vegetation that threaten native plant communities, increase wildfire risk, and impair the ecological function and appearance of the creek corridor; and,

WHEREAS, the control of noxious weeds is an important municipal function recognized under Wyoming law and local policy, including efforts coordinated with county and state weed and pest control programs; and,

WHEREAS, unmanaged vegetation within drainage corridors such as Killpecker Creek may obstruct water flow, contribute to flooding risks, and degrade riparian habitat; and,

WHEREAS, targeted grazing using livestock is widely recognized as an effective and environmentally responsible method for controlling noxious weeds and invasive vegetation while minimizing chemical herbicide use and mechanical disturbance; and,

WHEREAS, LS5 Livestock Company, LLC has submitted a proposal to the City of Rock Springs to provide targeted grazing services for the purpose of controlling noxious weeds and unwanted vegetation along Killpecker Creek from the confluence of Bitter Creek and Killpecker Creek to the railroad bridge located upstream of Springs Drive, with grazing operations continuing further upstream if work is completed prior to June 30, 2026; and,

WHEREAS, the proposal submitted by LS5 Livestock Company, LLC includes the deployment and management of livestock in a controlled grazing program specifically designed to suppress invasive vegetation and promote improved riparian vegetation conditions; and,

WHEREAS, the governing body of the City of Rock Springs has reviewed the proposal and determined that the services offered provide a cost-effective and environmentally sound method of vegetation management for the Killpecker Creek corridor; and,

WHEREAS, the total cost of the proposed targeted grazing program is Ninety-Two Thousand Dollars (\$92,000.00), and the governing body finds that such expenditure is reasonable and serves a legitimate municipal purpose; and,

WHEREAS, the governing body further finds that entering into the agreement will advance the City's objectives of environmental stewardship, public safety, flood mitigation, and responsible land management; and,

WHEREAS, the governing body has given the proposal careful consideration and finds that it is in the best interests of the City of Rock Springs to approve the agreement and authorize its execution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ROCK SPRINGS, STATE OF WYOMING:

Section 1. That the terms and provisions of the proposal from LS5 Livestock Company, LLC, for noxious weed and vegetation control in the amount of \$92,000.000 is hereby accepted and approved by the City of Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Section 2. That the Mayor of the City of Rock Springs be, and he is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute said agreement on behalf of said City; and that the City Clerk be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to attest said agreement and to attach a certified copy of this Resolution to each duplicate original of said agreement.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2026.

President of the Council

Attest:

Mayor

City Clerk

City of Rock Springs Spring 2026 Targeted Grazing Vegetation Management Proposal

Prepared for:

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Summary

This proposal outlines the use of goats to control noxious weeds and vegetation for flood management and fuels reduction along the Killpecker Creek and Bittercreek corridors in the City Limits of Rock Springs, Wyoming from April 2026-June 2026.

The Challenge

Noxious weed and vegetation management for flood risk and fuels reductions along waterways in urban and suburban areas present a challenging problem. The use of traditional chemical vegetation treatments are next to impossible due to chemical labels restricting the use around streams and mechanical removal is typically limited by access and high costs. Noxious weeds tend to build up in these areas and create seed banks that distribute those seeds downstream and to surrounding areas. The potential for flooding along the Killpecker and Bittercreek drainages is a large concern along these streams running through the City of Rock Springs. Vegetation overgrowth creates obstacles that slow the flow of water and contribute to flood severity in the area. Additionally, these areas also create potential fuel loading areas that increase the potential for increased severity of fire.

City of Rock Springs Spring 2026 Targeted Grazing Vegetation Management Proposal

The Scope:

This proposal will outline a prescription grazing plan that will reduce the vegetation along the Killpecker and Bitter Creek from April 2026 to June 2026. All proposal pricing will include all labor and equipment for transportation of goats and equipment to and from the project area; clearing of temporary fence lines; installing and tearing down of electric fencing systems, herding, and supplying clean water to the goats during the project duration.

1. Spring 2026

- a. **Targeted Grazing Area:** From the confluence of the Bittercreek and Killpecker Creek to the railroad bridge on the Killpecker Creek upstream of Springs Drive. In the event this area is completed before June 30, 2026, Targeted grazing will continue upstream of the rail road bridge towards the I-80 Bridge over Killpecker Creek until June 30th, 2026. All targeted grazing for the Spring 2026 Project will end on June 30th, 2026.
- b. **Targeted Species:**
 - i. **Noxious Weed Management:** The primary noxious weeds being targeted are Perennial Pepperweed, Tamarisk and Russian Olive. Additional noxious weeds may be present in the area. Perennial Pepperweed, Tamarisk and Russian Olive are all listed on the State of Wyoming Noxious Weed list.
 - ii. **Flood Management and Fuels Reduction:** The primary vegetation being targeted for flood management and fuels reduction will be the noxious weeds mentioned above and Greasewood.
- c. **Timing:** The project window for the Spring 2026 project will be from April 1, 2026-June 30, 2026.
- d. **Stocking Rate:** 100-250 goats will be utilized for this project depending on weed/brush growth progression timing.

e. **Price and Payment:**

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| 25% Mob and Initial Paddock Setup Fee Due by April 15th, 2026: | \$23,000.00 |
| 25% Progress Payment Due By May 29th, 2026: | \$23,000.00 |
| <u>50% 2026 Phase 1 Final Payment Due By July 15th, 2026:</u> | <u>\$46,000.00</u> |
| Project Total: | \$92,000.00 |