



For Immediate Release

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## MEET THE GOAT GRAZERS OF THE PORTUGUESE BEND RESTORATION PROJECT

PALOS VERDES PENINSULA, March 3, 2011– Join the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy to meet the hardworking goats at the Portuguese Bend Reserve in Rancho Palos Verdes on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 11:00 am.

Over 400 goats arrived March 2<sup>nd</sup> for three weeks to graze non-native weeds near the Peacock Flats and Burma Road trails as part of a 12-acre Conservancy restoration project. The project will eventually turn the weedy hillside into native coastal sage scrub and grassland habitats, supporting threatened and endangered plants and wildlife, such as the California gnatcatcher and cactus wren.

According to Conservation Director Danielle LeFer, “*Through practiced and controlled efforts by biologist and restoration ecologists, grazing is becoming a more commonly used practice by land managers. It is now accepted as a cost-efficient and effective tool for land conservation and to reduce fuel loads in fire-prone areas.*” Fire Grazers, Inc., which worked with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes on brush clearance in July 2010, is working with the Conservancy on this project.

Come visit the goats and learn about this Earth-friendly method of habitat restoration. Meet at 9:00 am at the trail entrance to the Portuguese Bend Reserve on Burrell Lane at the end of Crenshaw Blvd. near Del Cerro Park. Wear comfortable shoes and bring sun protection. Cancelled in case of rain. For a trail map and more information, please visit: [www.pvplc.org](http://www.pvplc.org).

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*The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit community-based organization dedicated to preserving land and restoring habitat for the enjoyment and education of all. The Conservancy owns or manages the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve, the Linden H. Chandler and George F Canyon Preserves in Rolling Hills Estates the White Point Nature Preserve, a facility of the LA City Department of Recreation and Parks, and habitat restoration on the Defense Fuel Supply Point in San Pedro.*