

## RANCHO PALOS VERDES. GOT YOUR GOATS



Steve McCrank Staff Photographer

Goats trucked in from the Inland Empire are eating their way across the Portuguese Bend Reserve. It's all part of preparing the conservancy land for replanting next winter with grasses and shrubs that were once native to the area.

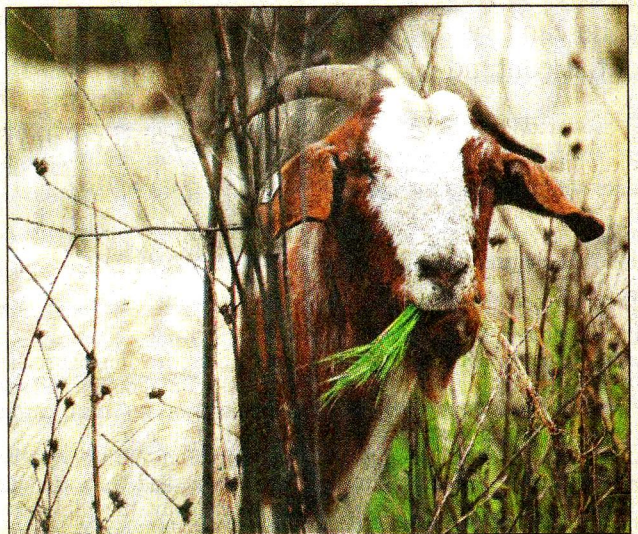
Several hundred goats descended on the Portuguese Bend Reserve in Rancho Palos Verdes this week. Trucked in from a ranch in Beaumont, the hungry creatures are in town to chow down on weeds in a 12-acre area that was damaged by the August 2009 wildfire.

It's part of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy's restoration of a slightly larger area covered in mustard, fennel and other non-native, invasive plants.

The conservancy plans next winter to begin seeding the area with native grasses and coastal sage scrub plants.

Though most trails will remain open while the goats munch their way through the area for the next few weeks, hikers are cautioned to avoid the electric fence that surrounds the herd.

More information is at the conservancy's new website, [pvplc.org/](http://pvplc.org/).



— Melissa Pamer