

SOW for CVAMC GOAT REQUIREMENT

BACKGROUND

Weed control measures and Fire mitigation for the Cheyenne VAMC. For the past decade or more, the use of goats for controlling weedy and brushy areas that provide fuel for fire has greatly increased. Such control is called *mitigation*. There are many services and organizations that have been created that now provide such control services using goats and sheep. Goats prefer weeds; don't like grasses. They eat the flower first so it doesn't get a chance to go to seed.

STATEMENT OF WORK DESCRIPTION

The selected contractor shall supply and utilize an appropriate number of goats for the removal of vegetation growth located in the shelter belt of the Cheyenne VAMC. The grazing area is a 15 acre area in size and we are anticipating the use of goats to take place approximately three (3) times a year for a period of one (1) week at a time. **During the one (1) week period, the entire 15 acres are required to be mitigated of weeds and bushy area.** All goats shall be kept within some sort of portable and temporary fencing at all times while located at the Cheyenne VAMC or any of its properties. The selected contractor will determine the amount of portable fencing that will be needed for this requirement. At no time will any goats or other animals be allowed to wander outside of the designated fenced in area for vegetation mitigation and all goats and/or other animals shall remain under the control of contractor personnel at all times.

The selected contractor shall supply all goats that are to be utilized for this requirement. Transportation to and from the Cheyenne VA Medical Center for all goats shall be provided by the selected contractor. Along with goats, the selected contractor shall provide at least one (1) experienced livestock handler/herder, capable of understanding and speaking English, to care for and maintain all goats supplied for this requirement. The livestock handler/herder shall remain on site with the goats the entire time (24/7) the goats are located on Cheyenne VAMC property.

The VAMC is not responsible for any injuries or death of the contractor's livestock. Potential risks include lightning, rattlesnakes and other predators.

The Cheyenne VAMC will provide an area for the livestock handler to park a camper. Water and power will be supplied by the Cheyenne VA Medical Center.

Weapons are prohibited from the Cheyenne VA Medical Center and all of its properties.

For any/all questions regarding information presented in this Statement of Work (SOW), please send inquiries to salim.williams@va.gov.

