



## News Release

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### **Flint Hills Resources to Host 50 Grazing Goats as Part of Habitat Restoration Program Along Mississippi River in Rosemount**

**ROSEMOUNT, Minn.** – Today 50 goats were delivered to the Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery in Rosemount where for the next two weeks they will be part of an innovative new approach for maintaining and restoring natural habitat. The goats will roam several acres inside a fenced-in section of the company’s property along the Mississippi River in an area known as the Pine Bend Bluffs Natural Area. The goats will help control shrubs and reduce overgrowth. Their hoofs will also work native seeds into the ground as they walk. Flint Hills Resources is partnering with Friends of the Mississippi River and Great River Greening on the new goat grazing program, which is part of the company’s long-standing habitat restoration program.

“This grazing project is a natural way to get rid of unwanted buckthorn before winter without using power equipment and chemicals,” said Wiley Buck, restoration ecologist with Great River Greening. “Goats are well-suited for this because they enjoy prickly brush and weeds, and their agility allows them to easily navigate the bluffs.”

Flint Hills has worked with Friends of the Mississippi River and Great River Greening on the Pine Bend Bluffs since 2000 to remove invasive species and plants, stack pre-cut buckthorn brush, and assist with other restoration tasks. One of the goals of the partnership is to reclaim important habitat for the Mississippi River flyway, a migration corridor for millions of songbirds and 40% of North America’s waterfowl and shorebirds. The Pine Bend Bluffs Natural Area is comprised of natural prairie, savanna, and oak woodland that provides critical habitat for both resident and migratory animals.

“It has been incredible to watch the transformation of the Pine Bend Bluffs over the last 13 years,” said Don Kern, engineering and facilities manager at Flint Hills Resources. “Thanks to the hard work of countless volunteers, including many of our

employees, the natural habitat around the bluffs is well on its way to being restored to conditions that precede the modern settlement of our state.”

The Pine Bend Bluffs Natural Area is an Environmental Initiative award winner for natural resource protection and is designated as an area of outstanding biological diversity by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. In addition to the restoration work, the Pine Bend Bluffs Natural Area is used to educate area students about the environment and importance of restoring and preserving natural habitats. [Click here](#) to view a video about the Pine Bend Bluffs Restoration Project.

### **About Flint Hills Resources**

Flint Hills Resources, LLC, through its subsidiaries, is a leading refining, biofuels and chemicals company. Its subsidiaries market products such as gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, ethanol, biodiesel, olefins, polymers and intermediate chemicals, as well as base oils and asphalt. Flint Hills Resources operates ethanol plants in Fairbank, Iowa Falls, Menlo and Shell Rock, Iowa and Fairmont, Nebraska. The plants have a combined annual capacity of 550 million gallons of ethanol.

The refining business operates refineries in Alaska (North Pole), Minnesota (Rosemount) and Texas (Corpus Christi), with a combined crude oil processing capacity of nearly 670,000 barrels per day. The petrochemical business includes production facilities in Illinois, Michigan and Texas. The asphalt business produces and markets product in the Midwest and Alaska. A subsidiary owns an interest in a lubricants base oil facility in Louisiana. More information about the company is available at [www.fhr.com](http://www.fhr.com).

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