



Esther Eckfield <esther@aloterraservices.com>

Fwd: Pigs + Larimer County

1 message

Christof Meyer <christof@aloterraservices.com>

Tue, May 5, 2026 at 10:39 AM

To: Esther Eckfield <esther@aloterraservices.com>, Stephen Shoemaker <stephen@aloterraservices.com>

Please include in CoFC pig memo

CM

Christof Meyer

President / Restoration Ecologist

AloTerra Restoration Services Inc.

Boulder/Fort Collins

(w) 970-578-9778

(c) 562-556-7188

<https://www.aloterraservices.com/>

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lea Schneider <schneils@co.larimer.co.us>**Subject:** Re: Pigs + Larimer County**Date:** April 8, 2026 at 10:56:21 AM MDT**To:** Christof Meyer <christof@aloterraservices.com>**Cc:** James Hansen <james@aloterraservices.com>, Scott Benton <bentonwi@co.larimer.co.us>

Christof,

Thank you for the additional information.

We strongly support alternatives to using fossil fuels during our summer ozone season, so we appreciate you and Rigden Farms being forward thinking.

The Health Department's primary concern was disease control, but you have adequate controls in place to minimize risk.

Let me know if you need a more formal support statement.

Sincerely,

Lea

**Lea Schneider, REHS (she/her)**
Environmental Health Planner
Air Quality & Zoonotic SupervisorDepartment of Health & Environment
1525 Blue Spruce Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80524
W: (970) 498-6777
lschneider@larimer.org | www.larimer.gov/health

On Wed, Apr 8, 2026 at 9:26 AM Christof Meyer <christof@aloterraservices.com> wrote:

Thanks Lea - great to hear from you!

Here are the answers to your questions:

1. The pigs will be on-site for about 6 months per year (until the invasives and invasives seed bank are depleted - this is outlined in our management plan)
2. Water is provide in a 55 gallon watering system that is replenished every 2 days or as needed - this also allows us to create wallowing spots to keep the pigs cool
3. There are 2 fences - an outer perimeter fence made of woven wire and t-posts. Then, there is a moveable, solar-powered, inner electric fence made of plastic mesh. Both of these are placed the mandatory distance from sidewalks and stuff per City of Fort Collins rules
4. Yes indeed. The young males (gilts) are also castrated.

Hope that helps. We have a public meeting tomorrow evening so I'd love to know if you're good with this prior to that meeting if possible. Regardless, we're totally committed to doing whatever we need to do to get this area cleaned up in a low-fossil-fuel way that is actually effective. After 10+ years of herbicide treatments that failed, we strongly believe the pigs are the answer and our initial work has showed great promise!

CM

Christof Meyer

President / Restoration Ecologist

AloTerra Restoration Services Inc.

Boulder/Fort Collins

(w) 970-578-9778

(c) 562-556-7188

<https://www.aloterraservices.com/>

On Apr 8, 2026, at 8:00 AM, Lea Schneider <schneils@co.larimer.co.us> wrote:

Hi all,

I am the contact for the Health Department and have some questions:

- Are the pigs left on-site 24 hours/day til the job is done, or retrieved daily?
- How is water provided?
- What type of fencing will you use for the boundary to keep the pigs in and the humans out?
- We assume the pigs are vetted and received their vaccines and dewormed since feces is left on-site for fertilizer?

Thank you!

Lea



Lea Schneider, REHS (she/her)
Environmental Health Planner
Air Quality & Zoonotic Supervisor

Department of Health & Environment
1525 Blue Spruce Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80524
W: (970) 498-6777
lschneider@larimer.org | www.larimer.gov/health

On Mon, Apr 6, 2026 at 1:23 PM James Hansen <james@aloterraservices.com> wrote:

Hi Scott,

Hope you had a nice weekend. Just wanted to touch base and see if you were able to find a point of contact that we could reach out to at the County's Health and Environment as Christof has as a neighborhood meeting with the City this Thursday. Please let me know if there's anything I can do to help the process along.

Thanks,
James

On Fri, Apr 3, 2026 at 11:49 AM Christof Meyer <christof@aloterraservices.com> wrote:
Thanks Scott - I really appreciate the help!

CM

Christof Meyer

President / Restoration Ecologist

AloTerra Restoration Services Inc.

Boulder/Fort Collins

(w) 970-578-9778

(c) 562-556-7188

<https://www.aloterraservices.com/>

On Apr 3, 2026, at 8:29 AM, Scott Benton <bentonwi@co.larimer.co.us> wrote:

Thanks James,

I'm including Lea on this chain so that she has the additional information.

Scott

On Thu, Apr 2, 2026 at 4:40 PM James Hansen
<james@aloterraservices.com> wrote:

Hi Scott,

Thanks for the reply. The project intends to use targeted pig grazing to restore degraded grassland at Rigden Farm by reducing invasive species, improving soil health, and enabling successful native plant establishment. Through rotational grazing, monitoring, and phased seeding, the plan aims to transition irrigated, weed-dominated areas into resilient, low-maintenance native landscapes while reducing water use and long-term management costs.

As Christof mentioned we need assistance in obtaining a statement of conformance with the Larimer County Health and Environment code, hopefully as simple as an email from the County. This is a request by Clint Anders at the City of Fort Collins to confirm that we have adequately addressed county regulations related to environmental health and management, such as waste and air quality controls.

I'll let Christof fill in anything I might have missed, but I've attached the Adaptive Management Plan as reference.

Thank you,
James

On Thu, Apr 2, 2026 at 2:29 PM Scott Benton
<bentonwi@co.larimer.co.us> wrote:

Afternoon Christof,

Glad to help. I'll need to ask around at a few departments since this is not a typical request so it'll take some time. We have a standing meeting every Tuesday afternoon where several departments are together, so hopefully after that.

Can you give some more details? Are you talking about using pigs anywhere in the County? In the GMA? In unincorporated Larimer County? Just in the City, but you're curious about any County concerns? Are you trying for another minor amendment with the City, or some kind of blanket approval? What about how and where the pigs are used?

The more info I can present the better answer you'll get.

Thanks,

Scott

On Thu, Apr 2, 2026 at 12:32 PM Christof Meyer

<christof@aloterraservices.com> wrote:

Hey Scott,

I was just chatting with my colleague James (CC'd here) about something we're getting asked to produce and it suddenly dawned on me that you might be able to help point us in the right direction. James can clarify, but essentially Clint Anders at the City needs us to give him an email or something from the County that says that our pig project will be in compliance with their health and environment regulations. We all assume nothing will be violated, but I think he's just trying to make absolutely sure that nobody comes back at him from the county with a protest about using pigs to graze weeds.

Thanks in advance for any help - I think we're just hoping to have a chat with someone and then get an email in the next week or so to add to our (already very thick) packet for the City.

All my best,

CM

Christof Meyer

President / Restoration Ecologist

AloTerra Restoration Services Inc.

Boulder/Fort Collins

(w) 970-578-9778

(c) 562-556-7188

<https://www.aloterraservices.com/>