

Memorandum

DATE: JANUARY 3, 2024
TO: DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARDS
FROM: AMY KNOPP, MANAGER OF RUETER-HESS RESERVOIR
CC: STEVE SHOULTZ, CPRE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PARKS, TRAILS & BUILDING GROUNDS
SUBJECT: RUETER-HESS RECREATION UPDATE FOR DECEMBER 2024

SUMMARY

This is the Rueter-Hess Recreation update for December 2024.

UPDATES

Rueter Hess Trail Run

On Saturday, December 7th, the Rueter Hess Rangers assisted with a 10K run that included the Incline Challenge. Due to heavy snowfall in Douglas County in November, the race had to be rescheduled multiple times to ensure safe trail conditions for runners and to minimize impact on the trail itself. In the lead-up to the event, the Rangers were actively hiking the trails to assess and communicate trail conditions. To provide the participants with a better experience and to protect the resources, the course was rerouted to a drier trail. Although the race was designated as informal, Run Uphill Racing is planning to host a formal race in the spring.

Swearing in Park Rangers

On December 19, 2025, Parks, Trails, and Rueter-Hess Park Rangers Garrett Johnson, Patrick Latham, Mikayla Kuntzman, and Dylan Roberts were officially sworn in by the Douglas County Sheriff, Darren Weekly. This collaborative program works closely with the Sheriff's Office, Parks, Trails and Building Grounds Technicians, and other first responders to ensure safe and enjoyable outdoor recreation for all visitors. Park Rangers are trained in both recreational management and public safety. They play a crucial role in maintaining and safeguarding—properties managed by the Parks, Trails, and Building Grounds Division of Community Development.



OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE UPDATES

- Annual equipment inventory completed
- The Douglas County Sheriff swore in New Park Rangers
- Piloting Survey 123 Patrol Logs
- Working on Sign Manual
- Completed Communication Training with the Sheriff’s Office Dispatch

Calendar of Events		
Special Use		
All Summer Season	Avid4 Adventure Summer Season Day Camp	Reservoir
6/1/2024	Fransen Pittman Company 5K	Incline
6/1/2024	Colorado Gun Dog Association	Hess Road Access
6/8/2024	Women Inspiring Leadership	Incline
06/21/24 to 6/23/24	Amateur Radio Emergency Service	Hess Road Access
07/15/24 to 07/19/24	Girl Scouts of Colorado Camp Days	Reservoir
10/23/24	Rock Canyon High School	Reservoir
12/7/24	Run Uphill Racing (originally scheduled on 11/16/24) – Due to low attendance, it did not meet the threshold to be a special event.	Incline
RAB /Partner Days		
6/14/2024	PWSD Bring Your Child to Work Day	Reservoir
7/20/2024	The City of Lone Tree Partner Day	Reservoir
7/24/2024	PWSD Family Day 3-6 pm	Reservoir
8/03/2024	The Town of Castle Rock Partner Day	Reservoir
8/17/2024	The Town of Parker Partner Day	Reservoir
8/24/2024	The City of Castle Pines Partner Day	Reservoir

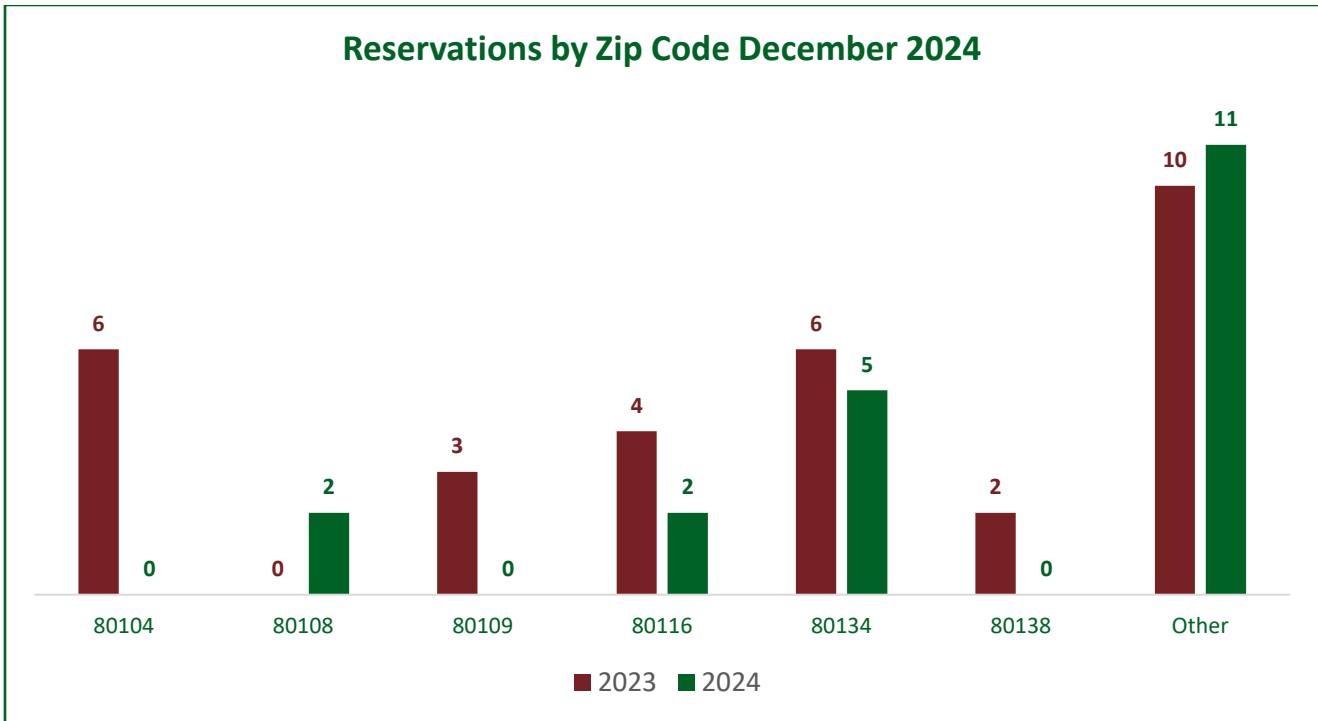
STATS

Visitation	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024 Total
Reservations Made	10	14	81	130	349	780	836	576	393	171	21	30	3,391
Reservations Attended	7	9	56	108	286	682	695	496	360	156	17	28	2,900
No Show Reservations	3	5	25	22	63	98	141	81	33	15	4	2	492
Number Of Visitors At Reservoir	15	18	128	187	727	1,770	1,754	1,272	853	308	33	62	7,127
Incline	3,537	3,895	5,672	5,879	7,538	8,110	7,033	6,254	6,712	6,287	3,229	4,672	68,818
Coyote Run Loop	690	575	572	737	989	1,565	872	815	919	859	333	527	9,453
Newlin Gold Trail	4	0	77	72	70	147	156	135	141	161	14	38	1,015
Total Trails Visitors	4,231	4,470	6,321	6,860	8,685	9,822	8,061	7,204	7,772	7,307	3,576	5,237	79,546
Total Visitors	4,246	4,488	6,449	7,047	9,412	11,592	9,815	8,476	8,625	7,615	3,609	5,299	86,673
Vehicles Allowed In Because They Couldn't Make A Reservation (Failed Reservation)	0	0	0	2	0	3	6	7	1	0	1	0	20
Reservation System Feedback	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024
Reservation Complaints	0	0	1	0	2	1	2	2	2	0	1	1	12
Vendor Reported Reservation Complaints	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Complaints Via Email Or Phone	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
Total Complaints	0	0	1	0	2	5	3	2	2	0	1	1	17

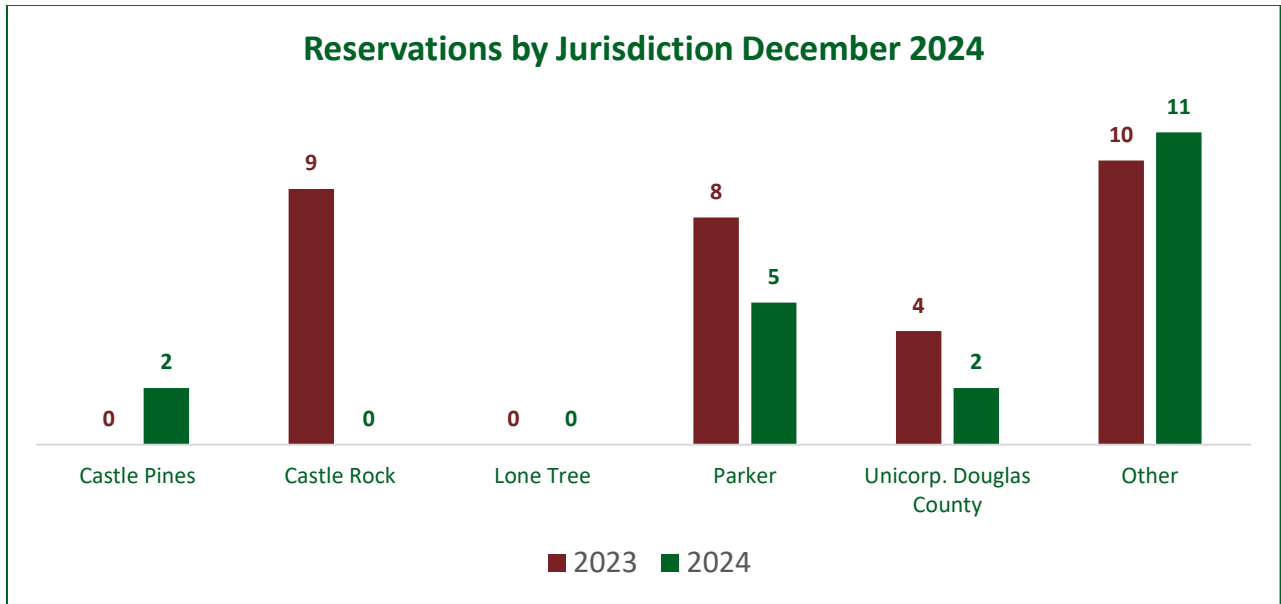
Fishing	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024
Adult Anglers	1	0	58	110	159	219	136	125	94	78	15	27	1,022
Youth Anglers	0	0	13	14	69	101	63	74	48	34	2	0	418
Total Anglers	1	0	71	124	228	320	199	199	142	112	17	27	1,440
Tackle Box Inspections	1	0	53	103	164	230	163	143	115	71	12	19	1,074
Fishing Checks	1	0	50	103	224	267	149	149	126	90	8	4	1,171
Special Events	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024
Partner Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	4
Partner Days Reservation Attended							59	208	0	0	0	0	267
Partner Days Visitation	0	0	0	0	0	0	148	490	0	0	0	0	638
Partner Programming Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Partner Programming Days Attendance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Events/Use	0	0	0	1	2	40	48	21	1	1	0	0	114
Special Events/Use Attendance	0	0	0	18	19	1,569	1,327	492	18	14	0	0	3,457
Total Special Activities/Events	0	0	0	1	2	40	49	24	1	1	0	0	118
Total People Attending Special Events	0	0	0	18	19	1,569	1,475	982	18	14	0	0	4,095
Public Safety	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024 Total
Water Assist (Just Needed Some Help)	0	0	0	0	2	23	0	14	5	0	0	0	44
Trail Assist	0	0	0	0	0	3	9	0	0	0	0	0	12
Number Of People Helped During Assists	0	0	0	0	2	26	14	14	5	0	0	0	61
Water Rescue (Dangerous Or Distressed Situati	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	7	0	0	0	0	14
Trail Rescue	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
People Helped During Rescue	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	7	0	0	0	0	14
Overdue Groups	0	0	0	1	7	10	6	6	14	3	0	1	48
Number Of People Overdue	0	0	0	2	20	28	16	13	37	3	0	2	121
Number Of People Helped To Recreate Safely	0	0	0	0	2	32	15	21	5	0	0	0	75
EMS Requested	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Number Of People Helped By EMS	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Ranger Patrol (h+B53:0110ours)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024
Foot Patrol	34	56	124	191	188	175	163	130	66	92	51	45	1,315
Bike Patrol	0	0	2	6	18	10	4	5	20	1	4	0	70
Boat Patrol	0	0	0	31	49	115	127	107	92	32	0	0	553
Vehicle And ATV Patrol	41	57	69	124	159	99	88	91	121	119	99	89	1,156
Entrance Station	250	225	311	316	224	239	247	187	225	240	161	197	2,822
Training	56	79	101	82	30	5	2	3	38	29	2	0	427
Admin At Highland Heritage Regional Park	427	355	177	59	57	17	87	9	41	45	35	54	1,363
Holiday/Vacation/Sick	72	60	104	73	125	240	138	78	17	48	48	115	1,118
Total Hours	880	832	888	882	850	900	856	610	620	606	400	500	8,824
Watercraft Inspections	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024
Paddleboard	0	0	0	34	199	712	796	610	337	73	0	0	2,761
Canoe	0	0	0	1	16	11	8	6	6	7	0	0	55
Kayak	0	0	0	6	120	176	207	160	95	51	0	0	815
Windsurf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Watercraft Inspection	0	0	0	41	335	899	1,011	776	438	131	0	0	3,631
Paddleboard Cleaned	0	0	0	12	35	128	124	103	95	6	0	0	503
Canoe Cleaned	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Kayak Cleaned	0	0	0	1	23	19	13	20	8	2	0	0	86
Windsurf Cleaned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Watercraft Cleaned - Allowed To Launch	0	0	0	13	59	147	137	123	103	8	0	0	590
Failed Paddleboard	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Failed Canoe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Failed Kayak	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	4
Windsurf And Wing Surf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Failed Inspections (Not Allowed To Launch)	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	6

Rules and Regulations	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024 Total
PFD Violations	0	0	0	0	15	43	47	29	41	8	0	0	183
Swim/Wade	0	0	0	0	7	36	53	22	5	0	0	0	123
Dogs On Shore	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	8
Dogs In Water	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Dogs Off Leash	1	5	7	4	2	1	0	1	3	5	0	4	33
Alcohol On Property	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	4
Vehicles Undesignated Areas	6	4	12	0	12	11	43	18	59	11	3	3	182
Off Trail Use	0	0	4	5	5	1	2	3	6	1	1	1	29
Bait Violations	0	0	0	0	6	14	0	2	5	0	0	0	27
Hook Violations	1	0	2	2	3	15	2	5	4	7	0	0	41
Poles Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fishing In Restricted Areas	0	0	0	23	10	5	4	3	0	1	1	0	47
Fishing License Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Fishing Permit Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total Rule Violations	8	9	26	34	64	128	154	86	123	35	5	9	681
Trail Maintenance (hours)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024
Trail	9	21	27	32	14	48	32	15	28	36	0	0	262
Establish New Trail	0	0	5	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23
Fishing Access	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
Establish New Fishing Access	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parks Tech's With Machinery	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total Trail Maintenance Hours	9	21	31	50	17	48	35	15	28	36	0	0	290
Comments & Questions	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024
Allowed Activity	0	2	4	16	7	5	2	5	2	0	0	0	43
Biking	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Boating	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	5
Camping	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Fishing	4	5	11	13	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	40
General Questions	0	0	15	12	5	9	17	13	4	2	0	1	78
Hiking	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	8
Inspections	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Passes	2	2	4	1	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	14
Refunds	0	0	0	0	3	13	14	12	2	3	1	0	48
Rentals	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	4
Reservations And Fees	1	2	9	13	10	22	4	14	5	3	1	0	84
Special Events	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	6
Trails	0	0	3	3	3	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	15
Grand Total	8	11	46	70	31	56	45	48	17	12	3	1	348
Facility Closure	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024
Facility Closure For Water Quality	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Impacted Reservation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Facility Closure For Weather	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	10
Total Number Of Impacted People	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1

RUETER-HESS VOLUNTEER HOURS								
Month	# of Hosted Events	# of Volunteers	Hours of Service	Hours of Check-Ins & Inspections	Bags of Trash Collected	Feet of Shoreline Maintained	Bags of Weeds Pulled	Miles of Trail Maintained
August	-	1	4	4	-	-	-	-
September	-	5	21	21	-	-	-	-
October	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
November								
December								
Totals	0	6	25	25	0	0	0	0



Rueter-Hess Usage by Zip Code	Number of Reservations	
	2023	2024
Zip Code		
80104	6	0
80108	0	2
80109	3	0
80112	0	0
80116	4	2
80134	6	5
80138	2	0
Other	10	11



Rueter-Hess Reservations by Jurisdiction			
City	2023	2024	Partner Day # Reservations Attended
Castle Pines	0	2	110
Castle Rock	9	0	101
Lone Tree	0	0	59
Parker	8	5	69
Unincorporated Douglas County	4	2	
Other	10	11	