

Fee Waiver Staff Report

Date:

To: Douglas County Board of County Commissioners

Through: Dan Avery, Deputy County Manager

From: Steve Shultz, CPRE, Director of Parks and Recreation

CC: Amy Knopp, MSOL, Rueter-Hess Recreation Manager
Morgan Morehart, Parks Operations Manager
Nick Giauque, CPRP, Parks Programs Manager

Subject: **Fee Waiver Request in the amount of \$1,560 for Amateur Radio Emergency Service of Douglas & Elbert Counties at Rueter-Hess Reservoir**

Board of County Commissioners Hearing

June 23, 2025 @ 1:30 p.m.

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service of Douglas & Elbert Counties requests a fee waiver in the amount of \$1,560 for the use of the Pavilion and 22 parking stalls at Rueter-Hess Reservoir for Amateur Radio Emergency Service of Douglas & Elbert Counties Field Day Event on June 26-28, 2026.

II. BACKGROUND

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service of Douglas & Elbert Counties (ARESDEC) is an on-call service organization that works with Douglas County's Office of Emergency Management. ARESDEC maintains a long-standing relationship with Douglas County OEM, the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, and the Board of County Commissioners. The organization is planning to host its annual Field Day Event on the Rueter-Hess Reservoir property from June 26 through June 28 and is coordinating facility use with Douglas County Parks and Recreation. The Douglas County Sheriff's Office, through its Office of Emergency Management, has expressed support for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service of Douglas & Elbert Counties Field Day Event and supports the fee waiver request.

III. REQUEST

Amateur Radio Emergency Service of Douglas & Elbert Counties is requesting a fee waiver of \$1,560 for the use of the Pavilion and 22 parking stalls at Rueter-Hess Reservoir for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service of Douglas & Elbert Counties Field Day Event on June 26-28, 2026.

IV. STAFF ASSESSMENT

The Board of County Commissioners has the sole authority to waive or reduce all park use fees and may choose to waive or reduce the event fee of \$1,560 for Amateur Radio Emergency Service of Douglas & Elbert Counties. The Douglas County Sheriff’s Office, through its Office of Emergency Management, has expressed support for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service of Douglas & Elbert Counties Field Day Event and supports the fee waiver request.

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May 26, 2026

Good morning, Amy,

I'm writing in support of ARES Field Day at Reuter Hess Reservoir and their request for a special event fee waiver.

ARESDEC continues to be a critical partner in supporting emergencies and disasters throughout Douglas County. DCOEM is happy to support their request and we thank you for continuing to support their critical mission.

Thank you!

Mike Alexander, CO-CEM, MS
Director, Office of Emergency Management
Douglas County Sheriff's Office
O: 303-660-7589 / C: 720-474-6310



Restrooms

5

- 1 – PIO Station
- 2 – CW Station
- 3 – GOTA / VHF Station
- 4 – SSB Station / MCT Station
- 5 – FT8 Digital station



Stroh Rd



1

2 Covered Picnic Areas

Stroh Rd

3

ARESDEC Proposed Field Day 2026 Site Plan

Restrooms

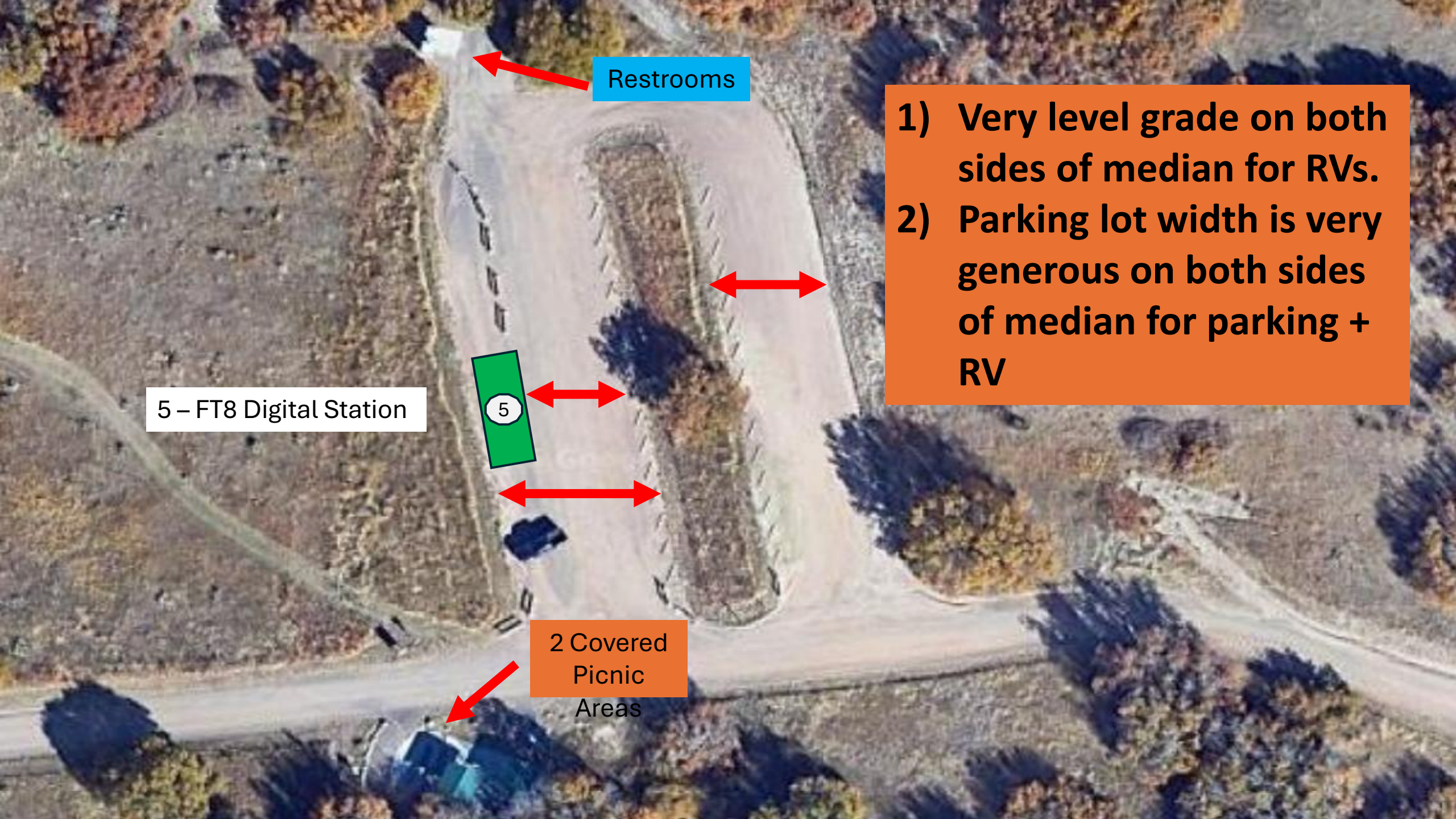
Pavilion

No ARES Parking

Stroh Rd

2

Last Updated: 5/25/2026



Restrooms

- 1) Very level grade on both sides of median for RVs.
- 2) Parking lot width is very generous on both sides of median for parking + RV

5 – FT8 Digital Station



2 Covered Picnic Areas