

Memorandum

DATE: OCTOBER 1, 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 SEPTEMBER 2024

SUMMARY

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

UPDATES



Rueter-Hess Volunteer

Rueter-Hess welcomes Mark Stewart, the Reservoir's first official volunteer. A retired Geologist, Mark will help rangers greet visitors and inspect watercraft at the entrance station. This year rangers have served over 9,900 visitors and inspected over 3,500 watercrafts. Volunteers like Mark will help make the check-in and inspection process more efficient providing better customer service for our citizens and visitors.

Labor Day Weekend Visitation

Over Labor Day weekend at Rueter-Hess Reservoir, the ranger staff inspected over 277 watercraft and welcomed over 535 visitors who came to recreate. The reservoir had 61 adult and youth anglers. Fishermen on watercraft were successful in catching Largemouth Bass and Walleye. Rangers were watchful and made sure all recreationists wore their life vests while on the water.



Unique Wildlife at Rueter-Hess Reservoir

Visitors to Rueter-Hess Reservoir routinely ask about the wildlife seen across the property. Rangers talk about the more common wildlife, such as mule deer, elk, prairie rattlesnakes, mallards, and bald eagles. As Colorado begins to cool off, the fall bird migration begins, and rare species can make an uncommon appearance. Several uncommon wildlife species were documented recently, and visitors may catch a glimpse of them. These sightings include a belted kingfisher, common loon (non-breeding plumage), and a yellow-bellied racer snake.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE UPDATES

- Onboarding two new rangers, Dylan Roberts and Garrett Johnson
- Providing boat operation training for rangers and Parker Water and Sanitation District employees
- Trail and Roadway corridor trimming, surface repairs, and vegetation mowing
- Entrance/Inspection volunteer training

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
11/16/24	Runuphill Racing	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

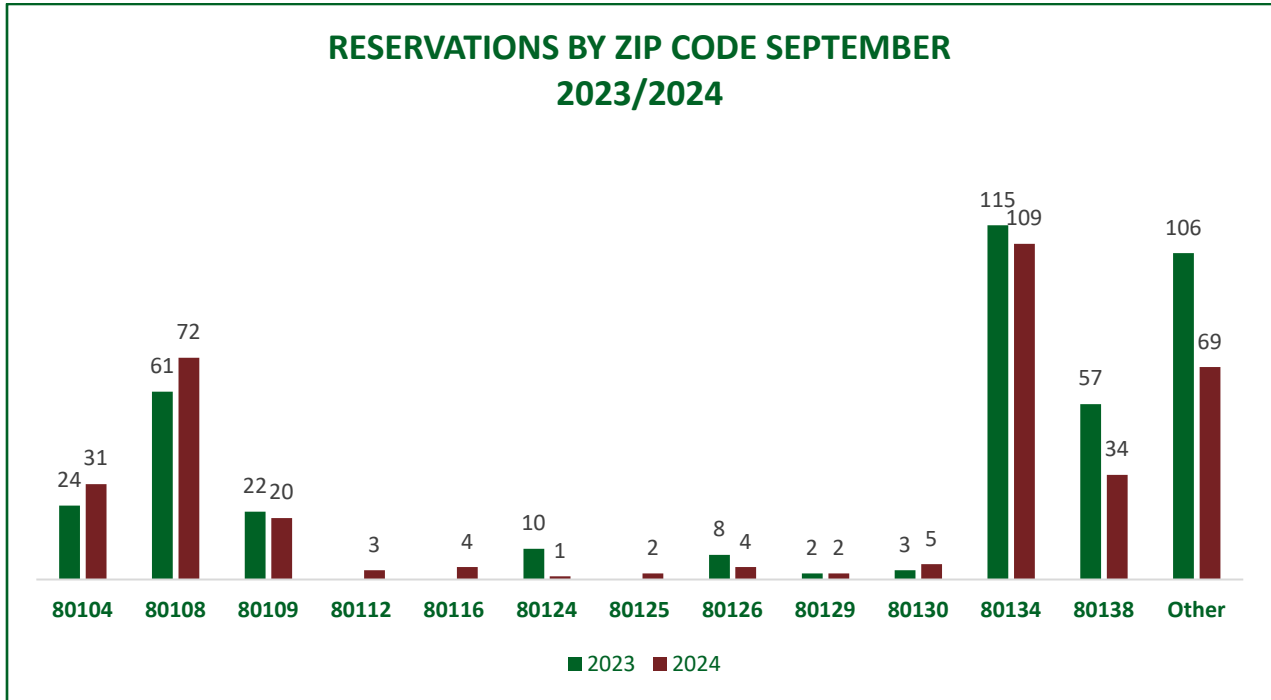
Visitation	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	2024
Reservations Made	10	14	81	130	349	780	836	576	393	3,169
Reservations Attended	7	9	56	108	286	682	695	496	356	2,695
No Show Reservations	3	5	25	22	63	98	141	81	37	475
Number Of Visitors At Reservoir	15	18	128	187	727	1,770	1,754	1,272	843	6,714
Incline	3,537	3,106	5,325	5,879	6,593	8,110	7,033	6,029	6,884	52,496
Coyote Run Loop	690	545	341	737	514	1,565	872	626	756	6,646
Newlin Gold Trail	10	2	71	72	70	147	156	97	120	745
Total Trails Visitors	4,237	3,653	5,737	6,688	7,177	9,822	8,061	6,752	7,760	59,887
Total Visitors	4,252	3,671	5,865	6,875	7,904	11,592	9,815	8,024	8,603	66,601
Vehicles Allowed In Because They Couldn't Make A Reservation (Failed Reservation)	0	0	0	2	0	3	6	7	1	19
Reservation System Feedback	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	2024
Reservation Complaints	0	0	1	0	2	1	2	2	2	10
Vendor Reported Reservation Complaints	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Complaints Via Email Or Phone	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	4
Total Complaints	0	0	1	0	2	5	3	2	2	15
Fishing	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	2024
Adult Anglers	1	0	58	110	159	219	136	125	92	900
Youth Anglers	0	0	13	14	69	101	63	74	46	380
Total Anglers	1	0	71	124	228	320	199	199	138	1,280
Tackle Box Inspections	1	0	53	103	164	230	163	143	113	970
Fishing Checks	1	0	50	103	224	267	149	149	124	1,067

Special Events	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	2024
Partner Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	4
Partner Days Reservation Attended							59	208	0	267
Partner Days Visitation	0	0	0	0	0	0	148	490	0	638
Partner Programming Days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Partner Programming Days Attendance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Events/Use	0	0	0	1	1	26	26	13	0	67
Special Events/Use Attendance	0	0	0	18	14	1,342	767	414	0	2,555
Total Special Activities/Events	0	0	0	1	1	26	27	15	0	70
Total People Attending Special Events	0	0	0	18	14	1,342	915	904	0	3,193
Public Safety	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	2024
Water Assist (Just Needed Some Help)	0	0	0	0	2	23	0	14	5	44
Trail Assist	0	0	0	0	0	3	9	0	0	12
Number Of People Helped During Assists	0	0	0	0	2	26	14	14	5	61
Water Rescue (Dangerous Or Distressed Situation)	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	7	0	14
Trail Rescue	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
People Helped During Rescue	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	7	0	14
Overdue Groups	0	0	0	1	7	10	6	6	13	43
Number Of People Overdue	0	0	0	2	20	28	16	13	31	110
Number Of People Helped To Recreate Safely	0	0	0	0	2	32	15	21	5	75
EMS Requested	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Number Of People Helped By EMS	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
Ranger Patrol (hours)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	2024
Foot Patrol	34.0	56.0	124.0	191.0	188.0	175.0	163.0	130.0	60.0	1,121.0
Bike Patrol	0.0	0.0	2.0	6.0	18.0	10.0	4.0	5.0	20.0	65.0
Boat Patrol	0.0	0.0	0.0	31.0	49.0	115.0	127.0	107.0	82.0	511.0
Vehicle And ATV Patrol	41.0	57.0	69.0	124.0	159.0	99.0	88.0	91.0	113.0	841.0
Entrance Station	250.0	225.0	311.0	316.0	224.0	239.0	247.0	187.0	211.0	2,210.0
Training	56.0	79.0	101.0	82.0	30.0	5.0	2.0	3.0	38.0	396.0
Admin At Highland Heritage Regional Park	427.0	355.0	177.0	59.0	57.0	17.0	87.0	9.0	39.0	1,227.0
Holiday/Vacation/Sick	72.0	60.0	104.0	73.0	125.0	240.0	138.0	78.0	17.0	907.0
Total Hours	880.0	832.0	888.0	882.0	850.0	900.0	856.0	610.0	580.0	7,278.0
Watercraft Inspections	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	2024
Paddleboard	0	0	0	34	199	712	796	610	335	2,686
Canoe	0	0	0	1	16	11	8	6	6	48
Kayak	0	0	0	6	120	176	207	160	94	763
Windsurf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Watercraft Inspection	0	0	0	41	335	899	1,011	776	435	3,497
Paddleboard Cleaned	0	0	0	12	35	128	124	103	95	497
Canoe Cleaned	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Kayak Cleaned	0	0	0	1	23	19	13	20	8	84
Windsurf Cleaned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	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	582
Failed Paddleboard	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Failed Canoe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Failed Kayak	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	4
Windsurf And Wing Surf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	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	6

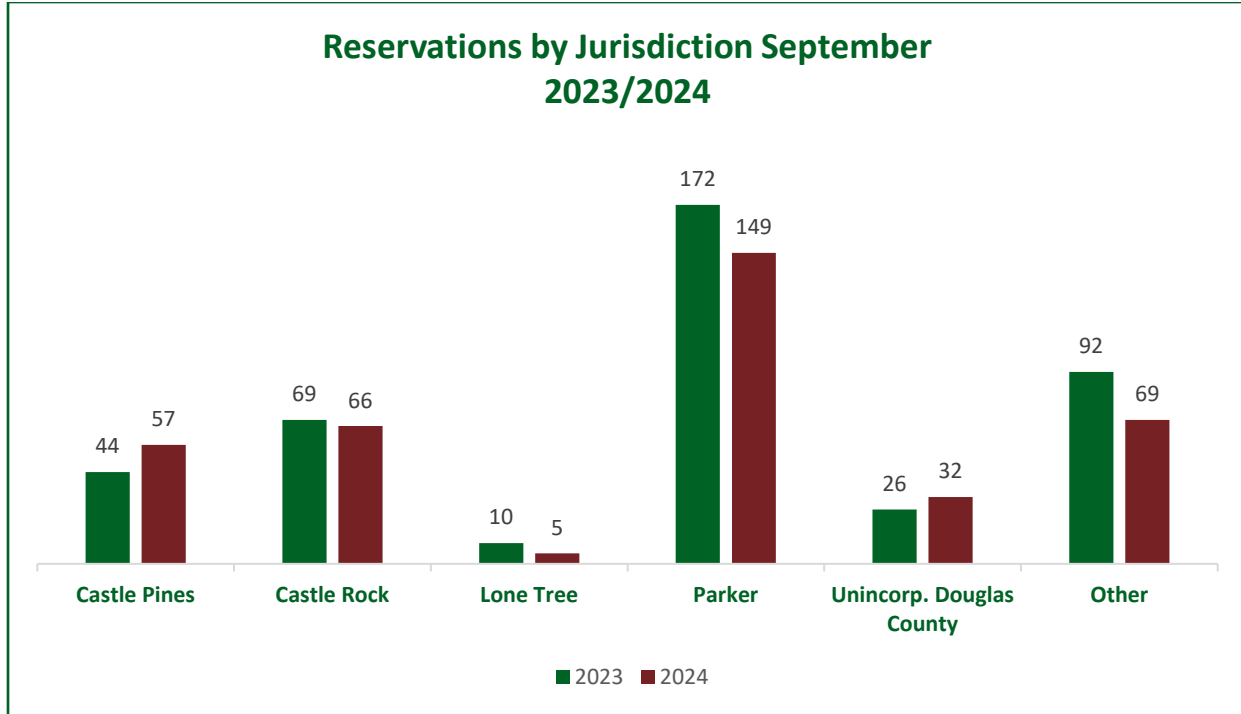
Rules and Regulations	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	2024
PFD Violations	0	0	0	0	15	43	47	29	41	175
Swim/Wade	0	0	0	0	7	36	53	22	5	123
Dogs On Shore	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	3	0	8
Dogs In Water	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Dogs Off Leash	1	5	7	4	2	1	0	1	3	24
Alcohol On Property	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Vehicles Undesignated Areas	6	4	12	0	12	11	43	18	57	163
Off Trail Use	0	0	4	5	5	1	2	3	6	26
Bait Violations	0	0	0	0	6	14	0	2	5	27
Hook Violations	1	0	2	2	3	15	2	5	4	34
Poles Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fishing In Restricted Areas	0	0	0	23	10	5	4	3	0	45
Fishing License Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Fishing Permit Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Total Rule Violations	8	9	26	34	64	128	154	86	121	630
Trail Maintenance (hours)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	2024
Trail	9.0	21.0	26.5	32.0	14.0	48.0	32.0	15.0	28.0	225.5
Establish New Trail	0.0	0.0	4.5	18.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.5
Fishing Access	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	4.0
Establish New Fishing Access	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Parks Tech's With Machinery	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	3.0
Total Trail Maintenance Hours	9.0	21.0	31.0	50.0	17.0	48.0	35.0	15.0	28.0	254.0
Comments & Questions	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	2024
Allowed Activity	0	2	4	16	7	5	2	5	2	43
Biking	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Boating	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	4
Camping	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Fishing	4	5	11	13	0	1	2	1	1	38
General Questions	0	0	15	12	5	9	17	13	4	75
Hiking	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	7
Inspections	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Passes	2	2	4	1	1	1	1	2	0	14
Refunds	0	0	0	0	3	13	14	12	2	44
Rentals	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	3
Reservations And Fees	1	2	9	13	10	22	4	14	5	80
Special Events	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	1	6
Trails	0	0	3	3	3	1	2	1	2	15
Grand Total	8	11	46	70	31	56	45	48	17	332

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 Registrations	
Zip Code	2023	2024
80104	24	31
80108	61	72
80109	22	20
80112	-	3
80116	-	4
80124	10	4
80125	-	2
80126	8	4
80129	2	2
80130	3	5
80134	115	109
80138	57	34
Other	106	69



Rueter-Hess Reservations by Jurisdiction			
City	2023	2024	Partner Day # Reservations Attended
Castle Pines	44	78	110
Castle Rock	69	66	101
Lone Tree	10	5	59
Parker	172	149	69
Unincorporated Douglas County	26	32	
Other	92	69	