

Memorandum

Date: July 7, 2025
To: Douglas County Advisory Boards
From: Amy Knopp, Manager of Rueter-Hess Reservoir
CC: Steven Shoultz, CPRE, Assistant Director of Parks, Trails & Building Grounds
Subject: **Rueter-Hess Recreation Update for June 2025**

SUMMARY

This is the Rueter-Hess Recreation update for June 2025.

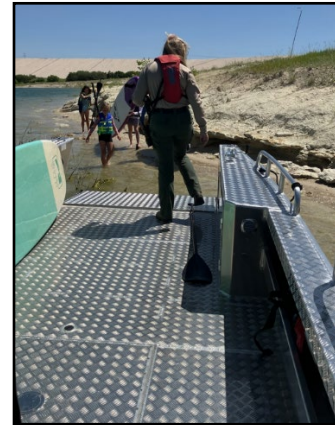
UPDATES

Rueter-Hess was a popular destination on Saturday, June 7th. Special events were hosted at three different locations on the property. The day brought a mix of gatherings across the park, starting with the Fransen Pittman 5K at the Incline, where 50 participants took on the challenge and enjoyed a well-earned breakfast afterward. At the reservoir, the Journey Church hosted a fishing event with 26 eager anglers. While more than 300 dogs and handlers attended the Colorado Gun Dog Association's Snake Training in a field located on the northern part of the property. Beyond the special events, the reservoir visitors—kayakers, fishermen, and paddleboarders- are all soaking in the perfect weather and calm waters. Even with three events, the property remained uncrowded and maintained the serene and tranquil atmosphere found at Rueter-Hess Reservoir.



The Rueter-Hess Reservoir welcomed a new safety patrol boat just in time for Father's Day weekend. Specially designed for water rescues, the 22-foot vessel features a rescue gate and landing gate. It also has a removable crane that is essential for reservoir maintenance, such as dock and buoy placement. Its spacious deck allows multiple paddle craft to be secured during rescues, reducing the number of return trips to shore and safe recreation.

Rangers conducted the boat's first rescue mission on Friday, June 13, when they assisted a paddleboarder stranded near the dam and unable to remount his board. Thanks to the boat's dive door and landing ramp, rangers were able to safely retrieve the people and their paddleboards—which had split a seam—and return them to the launch area shore.



OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE UPDATES

- Rescues or Assists Where the Fire Department or Sheriff's Office Responded
 - South Metro Fire Department (SMFD) and the Rangers responded to a person experiencing heat exhaustion-like symptoms. SMDF offered to transport the person, but they refused. The Rangers drove the person back to their vehicle.
- Maintenance
 - Adjust Docks due to falling water elevation
 - Parks and Trails Technicians repaired rutting along Rosie Rueter Trail
 - Begin mowing operations
 - Repair Spring ruts on Launch Rd near E Lot
 - E Lot ladder fuel mitigation under Oak brush

- Staff Development and Training
 - The new patrol boat was received. The Rangers are training to use new features like the dive doors and bow gate.
 - UTV Training
- Other
 - Newly hired Rangers Bernadette Ortiz, Mathew Aiguier, and Fred Hays
 - Newly hired seasonal gate attendant Parker Burruss

Stats (Updated 06/30/25)

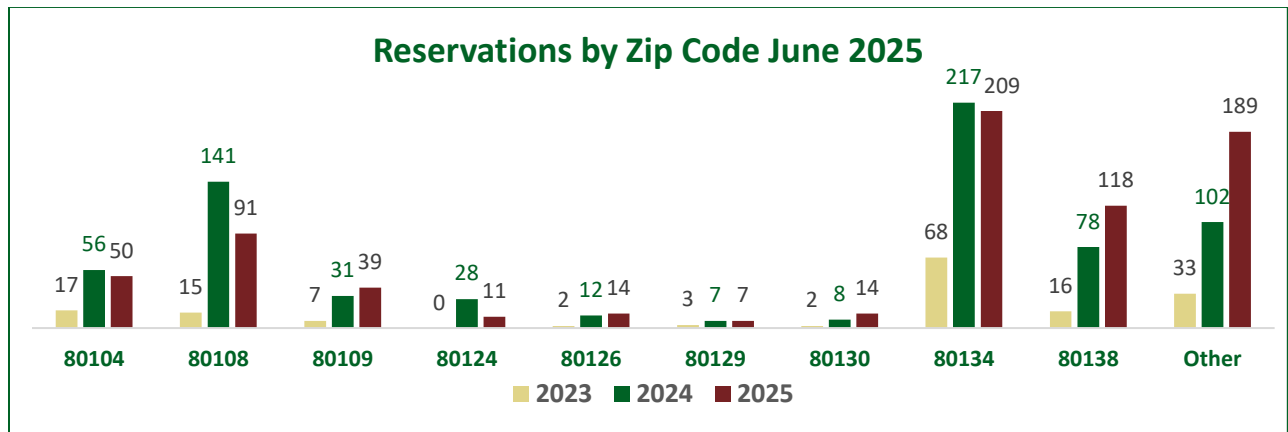
Visitation	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	2025 Total
Total Visitors At Reservoir	9	14	223	224	544	1696	2710
Total Trails Visitors	2894	4338	7571	7626	9230	10395	42054
Total Visitors	2903	4352	7794	7850	9774	12091	44764
Fishing	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	2025 Total
Adult Anglers	0	0	94	114	189	251	648
Youth Anglers	0	0	37	26	48	131	242
Total Anglers	0	0	131	140	237	382	890
Public Safety	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	2025 Total
Trail Assist	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trail Rescue	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Water Assist (Just Needed Some Help)	0	0	0	0	1	16	17
Water Rescue (Dangerous Or Distressed Situations)	0	0	0	0	8	6	14
EMS Requested	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number Of People Helped By EMS	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Overdue Groups	0	0	1	1	0	1	3
Number Of People Overdue	0	0	2	2	0	4	8
Number Of People Helped During Assists	0	0	0	0	1	16	17
People Helped During Rescue	0	0	0	0	8	7	15
Number Of People Helped To Recreate Safely	0	0	0	0	9	23	32
Rules and Regulations	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	2025 Total
PFD Violations	0	0	0	0	9	22	31
Swim/Wade	0	0	0	0	5	12	17
Dogs On Shore	0	0	0	3	2	4	9
Dogs In Water	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dogs Off Leash	2	3	1	1	3	3	13
Vehicles Undesignated Areas	2	1	4	0	3	18	28
Off Trail Use	0	0	0	1	4	2	7
Bait Violations	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Hook Violations	0	0	0	2	5	5	12
Poles Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fishing In Restricted Areas	0	0	0	1	3	9	13
Total Rule Violations	4	4	5	8	34	80	135

Calendar of Events 2025		
Date	Special Event	Location
5/11/2025	PWSD Academic Tour	Reservoir
5/11 and 12 /2025	PWSD Academic Tour	Reservoir
5/13/2025	Town of Parker Parks Advisory Board Tour	Reservoir
5/14/2025	South Metro Fire Training	Reservoir
5/31/2025	Runuphill Racing	Incline
6/1 to 8/15/25	Avid4 Adventure Summer Season Day Camp	Reservoir
6/7/2025	Fransen Pittman Company 5K	Incline
6/7/2025	Journey Church Fishing	Reservoir
6/7/2025	Colorado Gun Dog Association	Hess Rd. Access
6/9/2025	Lone Tree Rec Committee Tour	Reservoir
6/26 to 6/28/25	Amateur Radio Emergency Service	Hess Rd. Access
7/4/2025	Jaegger Family Visit to Rueter-Hess	Reservoir
7/14 to 7/18/25	Girl Scouts of Colorado Camp Days	Reservoir
9/13/2025	WICT Network Rocky Mountain	Incline
8/23/2025 (tentative)	Douglas County Sheriff's Office	Reservoir
7/19/2025	South Metro Dive Rescue Training	Reservoir
7/21/2025	South Metro Dive Rescue Training	Reservoir
7/23/2025	South Metro Dive Rescue Training	Reservoir
RAB /Partner Days		
5/11/2025	PWSD Student Visit to the Reservoir	Reservoir
8/10/2025	Castle Pines Partner Day	Reservoir
7/19/2025	Lone Tree Partner Day	Reservoir
7/27/2025	Castle Rock Partner Day	Reservoir
7/30/2025	PWSD Family Day 3-6 pm	Reservoir
8/16/2025	Parker Partner Day	Reservoir
Partner Programing		
6/14/2025	Dash Across the Dam - Parker 5K	Reservoir
Volunteer Programming		
4/3/25	Rocky Outcropping Fence*	Incline
4/10/25	Rocky Outcropping Fence*	Incline
4/17/25	Tentative Rocky Outcropping Fence*	Incline
6/30/25	Corridor Clearing	Coyote Loop
7/18/25	Shoreline Clean-up	Reservoir
7/25/25	Corridor Clearing	Newlin's
9/12/25	Shoreline Clean-up	Reservoir

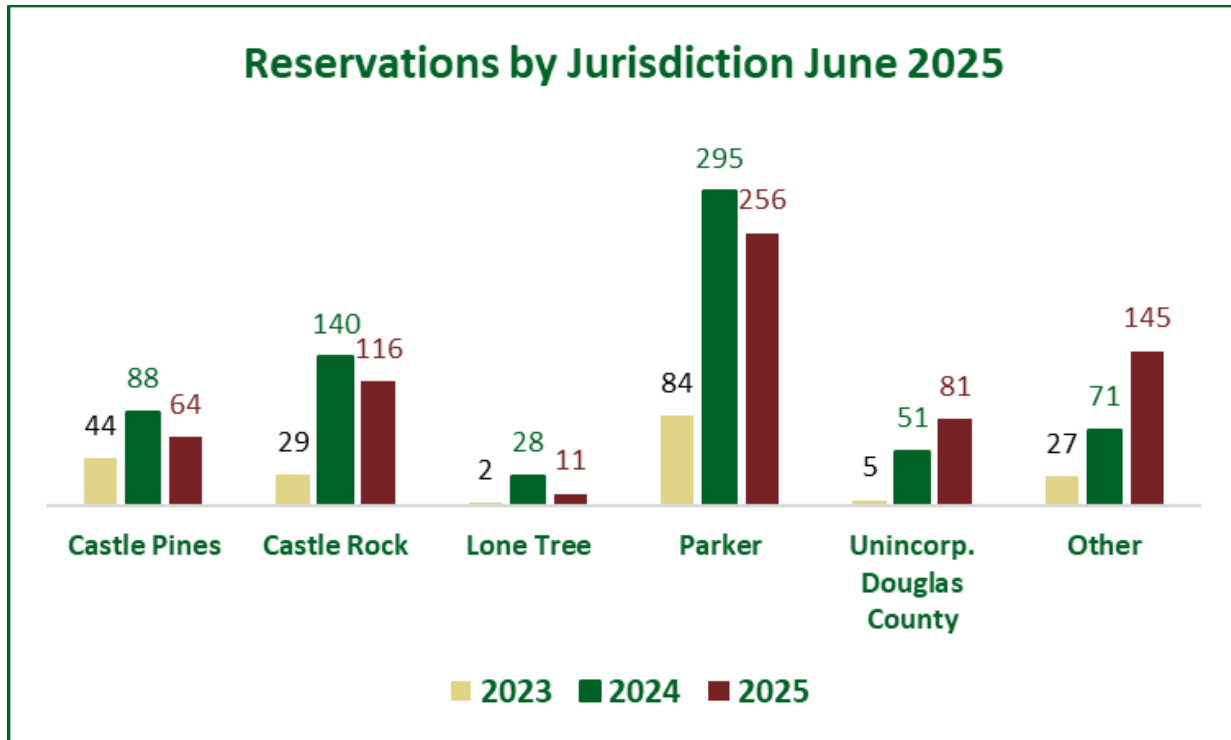
* Canceled due to weather

RUETER-HESS VOLUNTEER HOURS 2025

Month	Number of Hosted Events	Number 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
March	8	8	24	24	0	0	0	0.00
April	11	11	33	33	0	0	0	0.00
May	19	19	57	50	3	20	1	0.25
June	10	10	30	26	3	0	1	0.00
Totals	48	48	144	133	6	20	2	0.25



Rueter-Hess Usage by Zip Code June 2023 - 2025			
Zip Code	2023	2024	2025
80104	17	56	50
80108	15	141	91
80109	7	31	39
80124	0	28	11
80126	2	12	14
80129	3	7	7
80130	2	8	14
80134	68	217	209
80138	16	78	118
Other	33	102	189



Usage By Jurisdiction June 2023 - 2025			
City	2023	2024	2025
Castle Pines	44	88	64
Castle Rock	29	140	116
Lone Tree	2	28	11
Parker	84	295	256
Unincorp. Douglas County	5	51	81
Other	27	71	145