

A SHORT HISTORY OF RUETER-HESS RESERVOIR

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PARKER WATER AND SANITATION

PWSD MASTER PLAN 1985

- **Small service area – 1,515 acres**
- **PWSD owned no Denver Basin water**
- **Water supply shortfall of 3,000 ac-ft.**

PWSD MASTER PLAN 1985 (CONT'D)

- Evaluated various alternatives:
 - Purchase additional ground water
 - Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR)
 - Reuse
 - South Platte
 - Colorado River
 - Arkansas
- Surface storage to capture in-priority Cherry Creek flows appeared most viable

PWSD'S WATER STORAGE PROJECT HISTORY

- **1983** - Hydrologic studies indicated PWSD faced a 3,000 ac/ft shortfall based on PWSD's then current master plan and decreed ground and surface water rights.
- This set in motion a series of studies that determined the need for STORAGE.
- Three sites evaluated:
 - 1) Castlewood Canyon
 - 2) Bridge Canyon
 - 3) Confluence

PWSD'S WATER STORAGE PROJECT HISTORY (CONT'D)

- **Dec 1985** - site selected for the water storage facility was in Castlewood Canyon State Park at the Castlewood Canyon Dam.



PWSD'S WATER STORAGE PROJECT HISTORY (CONT'D)

- **1993** - The Colorado Parks & Outdoor Recreation Board objected to the Castlewood Canyon reservoir project.
- **1993** - Prior to the final decision by the Court of Appeals, Parker Water filed for an *alternative* (backup) storage project at the Rueter-Hess Reservoir Site.

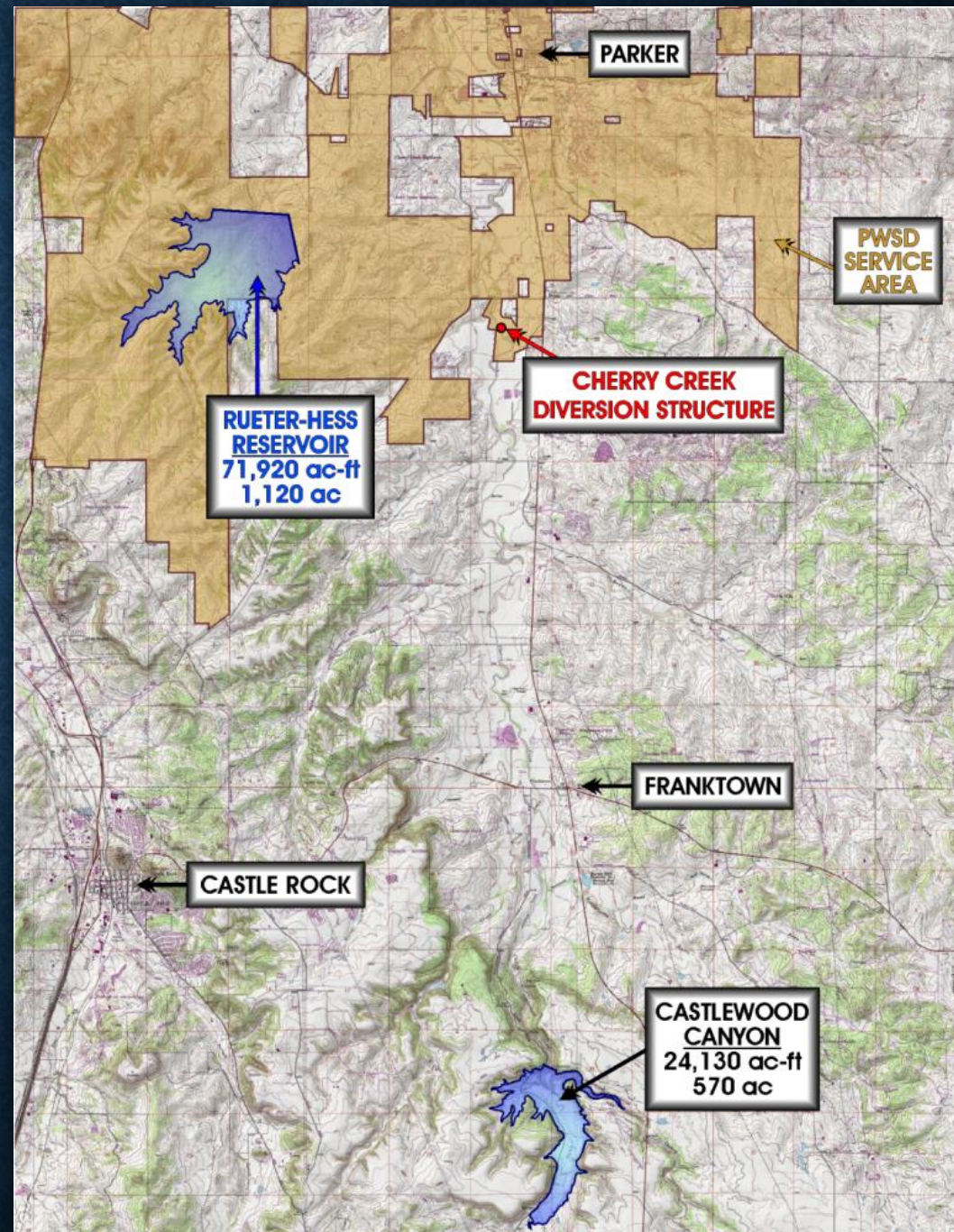
RUETER-HESS RESERVOIR

- With the elimination of the Castlewood Canyon Dam site, Parker Water turned its attention to the Rueter-Hess site.
 - **1994** - Purchase of Hess property
 - **1996** - Court Decree entered for Rueter-Hess
 - **1996** - Geotechnical studies began at site
 - **1997** - Purchase of State Land Board land
 - **1997** - Environmental studies began at site
- **1999** - Parker Water applied to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for a 404 permit for the dam, reservoir and associated facilities. The Corps determined that a full analysis of the environment and social effects of the project and reasonable alternatives was necessary.

ELIMINATION OF CASTLEWOOD PROVIDED NEW OPPORTUNITIES

- **RUETER-HESS** - a superior site because of its proximity to Parker
- Ability to optimize AWT reuse flows

ALTERNATE RESERVOIR SITES



WHAT NEXT?

- Need established for Rueter-Hess.
- Now need to construct the reservoir!
- Locate and develop new renewable sources.

RUETER-HESS RESERVOIR PERMITTING & CONSTRUCTION



QUESTIONS?

