

Ruedi Dam/Reservoir Statistics

Type: Earth and rock fill

Location: On the Fryingpan River about 15 miles east of Basalt, Colorado

Construction period: 1964 - 1968

Ruedi Reservoir:

Total capacity to Elevation 7766: 102,369 acre feet (33 Billion Gallons)

Surface area: 997 acres

Height above streambed: 285 feet

Top width: 30 feet

Maximum base width: 1,453 feet (1/4 mile)

Crest Length: 1,042 feet

Crest Elevation: 7788.0 feet

Total volume (embankment): 3,745,200 cubic yards of soil

Ruedi Timeline

August 1962	Fryingpan-Arkansas Project approved
August 1964	Construction started on Ruedi Dam
May 1968	Ruedi Reservoir began filling
June 1977	First sale of water from Ruedi
August 1985	Ruedi hydroelectric plant starts operating
August 1990	First release of water from Ruedi for endangered fish

Fryingpan-Arkansas Project Transbasin Diversions

Name	Stream	Annual Flow (acre feet)	Receiving Stream	Basin
Boustead Tunnel	Fryingpan River	50,061	Lake Fork Creek	Arkansas
Twin Lakes Tunnel (Grizzly & Lost Man Reservoirs)	Roaring Fork River	41,854	North Fork Lake Creek	Arkansas
Busk-Ivanhoe Tunnel	Fryingpan River	5,208	Lake Fork Creek	Arkansas

The West Slope Collection System, located upstream of Ruedi Reservoir in the upper Fryingpan River and Hunter Creek watersheds, is a series of 16 stream diversion structures and eight tunnels. The system collects spring snowmelt runoff for diversion, by gravity, to the inlet of the Boustead Tunnel. The Boustead Tunnel conveys water collected by the West Slope Collection System under the Continental Divide and into Turquoise Lake on the East Slope. The tunnel is five miles long and has a water conveyance capacity of 945 cubic feet per second (ft/s).

Eight percent of the water in the Watershed is currently diverted to the Eastern Slope (eastern side of the Continental Divide, to the Arkansas River Basin and Eastern Slope cities including Pueblo) through tunnels such as the 5.4 mile long Boustead Tunnel.