

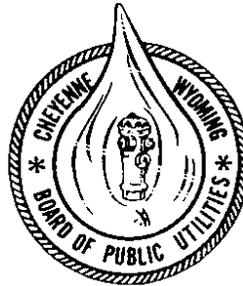
Media Release

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National Drinking Water Week- 50 Years of Hog Park and Rob Roy Reservoirs

Cheyenne, WY- National Drinking Water Week recognizes the vital role that water plays in our daily lives and for the City of Cheyenne. As history tells us, water supplies in the dry Western states are complex with water rights, reservoir sources, miles of pipelines, groundwater wells and the need for water conservation measures including recycled water.

Reflecting back on Cheyenne's water supply system, 50 years ago in 1966 the City of Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities (BOPU) completed two major reservoir projects which are the heart of Cheyenne's water supply system. Approximately half of the water used in Cheyenne comes from a trans-basin trade system from Rob Roy dam and reservoir located in the Medicine Bow Mountain Range and Hog Park Reservoir located in the Sierra Madre Mountain Range.

For Cheyenne, the water story starts west of the Continental Divide where BOPU collects water from streams and transports it under a mountain by a tunnel to the eastside of the Continental Divide. That water is then stored in Hog Park Reservoir. From there, the collected water from Hog Park Reservoir is traded for water in Rob Roy Reservoir which can easily be transported without pumping to Cheyenne. "In this way, the amount of water can be exchanged between the two different Mountain Ranges with all water rights being satisfied," said Dena Egenhoff, the BOPU's water conservation manager.

Water from Rob Roy Reservoir is piped 53 miles across two mountain ranges and is gravity fed to Granite and Crystal Reservoirs in Curt Gowdy State Park. In short, water is then transported to the Sherard Water Treatment Plant, then treated and delivered to the City's homes and businesses. This elaborate engineering feat is accomplished mainly with the use of gravity.

Though Hog Park and Rob Roy Reservoirs are celebrating 50 years of existence, both were rehabilitated in 1985. These two landmarks are a great example of how Cheyenne's water resources evolved to be able to meet Cheyenne's water needs.

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