

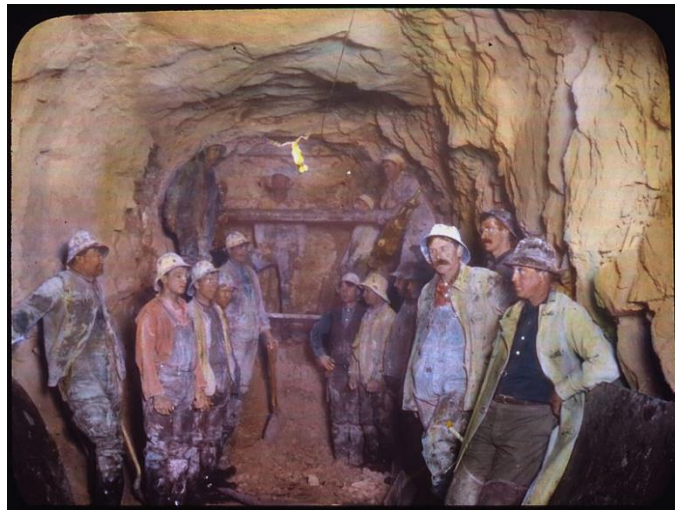
July 2020



## STRAWBERRY PROJECT NEWS

### Recognition of 98 Years

The Strawberry Valley Project is an irrigation project that began in 1905. Early, innovative pioneers built an irrigation system bringing Strawberry Valley Project water from the Strawberry Reservoir, through the Wasatch Mountains, to farmland in South Utah County. The purpose of the Project remains intact today – reliable, quality irrigation water to farmland in South Utah County.



*1905 Heading Crew at the West Portal of the Strawberry Tunnel in Wasatch County.*

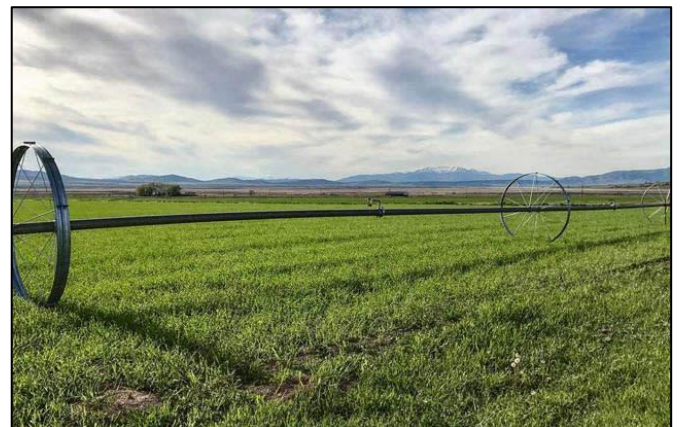
In 1922, the Strawberry Water Users Association was created with three distinct roles in relation to the Strawberry Valley Project: 1) repay the construction costs to the United States, 2) assume responsibility of operations, maintenance and repairs of project facilities with the exception of the High Line Canal, Mapleton Canal and Springville Canal Companies who had previously entered into contracts with the United States government, and 3) delivery of water to the head gates of canal companies. The debt was completely repaid in December 1974. This year, the Strawberry Water Users Association recognizes

98 years of continued service to the citizens, farmers and the economy of South Utah County. The Strawberry Water Users Association continues its primary and historic responsibilities of operations and maintenance to many of the original and present-day features and facilities of the Strawberry Valley Project.

### River Levels

July marks the middle of the irrigation season. Careful monitoring and management of limited water flows in the Spanish Fork River is crucial to production, sustainable agriculture – livestock and crops. The Spanish Fork River peaked with natural flows on May 3 with 311 cubic feet per second (cfs). In early July, natural river flows decreased to 97 cfs. Because of the vision and hard work of early pioneers, the Strawberry Valley Project adds water to existing Spanish Fork River flows. For example, this month (July), Strawberry Valley Project water provides an additional 300 cfs, giving South Utah County farmers needed water to combat hot, dry and sustained summer conditions.

In 2019, Utah County ranked first out of 29 total counties in Utah for highest agricultural cash receipts -- \$131 million in livestock, \$80 million in crops for a total of \$212 million). Utah



County, specifically south Utah County, agriculture is successful, in large part, because of the vision and hard work of early pioneers who created the Strawberry Valley Project.

### Annual Assessment

Each year, shareholders receive two assessments or bills for Strawberry Valley Project water. The first assessment is from the Strawberry Water Users Association for delivering water from Strawberry Reservoir to the head gate of your canal company. This assessment is mailed approximately April 1 and shareholders are given 30 days to make payment. Payments can be mailed, dropped off or paid online. Late payment can result in late fees even liens on property. The second assessment is from your canal company who delivers water to your delivery point.

### Licensed Contractor

Strawberry Water Users Association maintains two construction General Engineering Contractor Licenses allowing our construction crew to work year-round on rehabilitation projects, including pipelines, concrete boxes, canal cleans/repairs, culverts, drainage systems, etc. for canal companies, irrigation districts and Strawberry Valley Project shareholders. Contact Chad Knapp, Operations Manager, for information.



### Selling Land?

By contract with the United States, Strawberry Valley Project water is appurtenant or attached to the land. This means that if land, which has Strawberry Valley Project water, is sold, subdivided, or deeded to another owner, the ownership of the water shares is legally transferred to the new land owner. Water shares are then transferred on the books and records of Strawberry Water Users Association after a

land deed is recorded at the Utah County Recorder's Office. Shareholder records are processed at the Strawberry Water Users Association Office. Please bring a copy of your recorded deed to the Strawberry Water Users Association Office to ensure shareholder records are updated.

### Central Utah Project Rental Water

There is Central Utah Project water available to Strawberry Water Users Association shareholders who are interested in renting additional water. Central Utah Water Conservancy District has asked Strawberry Water Users Association to administer the application process.

If you currently have a lease agreement for Central Utah Project water, you must remember to contact the Strawberry Water Users Association Office if you have made any type of change in your land ownership. The Central Utah Project water contracts do not transfer to a new owner of land.

### Contact

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