

Commissioner's Report 2005

This was an abundant water year. The reservoirs filled and there was extra allotment from Deer Creek Reservoir from June 1 through July 11. Extra allotment was also allowed from August 21 through October 26 to allow the reservoir to come down so that repairs to a filter on the face of the dam could be completed.

The June sucker received 12, 650 acre feet of water from May through July and 15,000 acre feet of Weber water was stored in Utah Lake for later exchange to Deer Creek Reservoir.

Priority of water rights to high flows on the Provo River was reversed this year with water first going to Jordanelle and then to Deer Creek. This was made possible because of the plentiful water supply and the cooperation of involved right-holders. It made the filling of Deer Creek and Jordanelle reservoirs much easier.

Washington lake, Trial Lake and Lost Lake filled and 5,008 acre feet was stored in Jordanelle for Upper Lake right holders.

Water rights in Heber Valley and above were delivered as follows:

17th class from May until July 11

14th class until July 18

5th class until July 23

100 percent of first class until August 12

75 percent of first class into September

Water rights on the Provo River below Deer Creek remained at 100 percent of first class for the entire season. Exceptionally high flows into the river in Provo canyon were observed all summer. Apparently due to the extreme amount of snow that fell on Timpanogos and Cascade mountains, Slide Canyon ran continuously into the winter and Upper Falls and Bridal Veil Falls flowed the most in 33 years of observation.

Flows into the Murdock Canal started the 18th of May but had to be reduced on the 28th of June due to a leak in the canal near the point of the mountain.

After 40 years of service, poor health forced Sherman Giles to retire as deputy river commissioner. He had also served as a board member for nearly 60 years. His service and knowledge of the river will be missed..