



THE STATE OF UTAH
OFFICE OF STATE ENGINEER
SALT LAKE CITY

ED. H. WATSON
STATE ENGINEER

Sept. 15, 1942

REL: COAL CREEK DECREE

Memorandum for Office Study Only, by L. C. MONSON

On September 10, 1942 the writer contacted Mr. Gronway Parry and together called on Mr. Woods at the Woods Toggery relative to the complaint of Mr. Woods that the Coal Creek Decree did not include the Woods rights to water from a tributary to Coal Creek in Coal Creek Canyon. They were told that it was purely a question whether or not the water users on Coal Creek whose rights are covered by the Decree see fit to permit use of water at the Woods ranch. Mr. Woods asked the writer to examine the conditions at the Woods ranch and on the morning of September 11, I accompanied Mr. Woods to the ranch where I found about six acres of truck garden under cultivation. They were diverting about .25 sec. ft. of water. I suggested to Mr. Woods to try and come to an agreement with the Coal Creek users but Mr. Woods is under the impression that the Coal Creek Decree does not apply to the tributaries; he stated that they were so informed by the State Engineer in 1924 and also by their attorney at that time.

Mr. Woods stated he would try and follow the advice of this office and try to come to some agreement with the Coal Creek users but would like to meet the representatives of this office when the Wilson hearing takes place in about 10 days or 2 weeks.

LCM/mv/vm

L.C.M.

8/30/43

On June 8, 1943, I met Mr. Roice B. Nelson, Chairman of the Coal Creek Water Users' Committee, at the City Hall in Cedar City, and accompanied him up Coal Creek to the Leroy Wood ranch, where we found about .3 sec. ft. of water being diverted from Coal Creek onto the Wood ranch. The water was running on the meadow area. No one was at the ranch. Early in the season Mr. Wood had diverted about 1 sec. ft., according to Mr. Nelson. Mr. Wood has about 5 acres in truck crops and possibly an acre of pasture and meadow land. His neighbor below him also has a little strip of meadow land, which has also been irrigated. After looking over the diversion from Coal Creek, Mr. Nelson took me up the right hand fork to Hy Perry hollow, where Mr. Wood has constructed a small reservoir. The earth filled dam is approximately 200 ft. long, 15 ft. high and 6 ft. wide in the center section. The dam widens out to about 15 ft. on each end. There appears to be a 4-in. pipe through the center of the dam about 6 ft. in elevation above the bottom of the wash. The outlet pipe is equipped with a 4-in. valve. A few gallons per minute was spraying out through the valve. The spillway is cut on the west side of the dam and the channel carries the water below the downstream toll of the dam before returning the water to the creek. There are two small seep areas through the dam, - one near the center and the other at left center. The spillway is 6 ft. wide and about 2 ft. deep; The top bank of the spillway channel being about 1/2 ft. higher than the top center section of the dam. A log boom serves to dissipate the waves on the upstream face of the dam. No rock riprap was observed. The water surface is approximately 1 1/2 ft. below the top of the dam. The water was stored during the spring runoff and apparently the

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water will be drawn out through the pipe to supplement the direct diversion from Coal Creek. There is stored perhaps about 2½ ac. ft. of water. The water users think Mr. Wood should make some provisions for storage and the State Engineer's office should require Mr. Wood to file plans and specifications and to also enlarge the spillway. Later on in the day, while conferring with Water Commissioner Leigh, he reported that he had measured the water going into the reservoir, and the water below and found it to be about the same quantity.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that Mr. Wood be informed that it will be necessary for him to make some provisions to secure water to store in this reservoir and to file a change application, accompanied with plans and specifications for the construction of the dam, if Mr. Wood proposes to use the reservoir for irrigation purposes.

R.E.R.

RER/vm