



Video on 'Wild West of Water' in Cabazon

Published: Monday, February 15, 2010 12:20 AM CST

We've got cattle drives, a giant water tunnel, dinosaur sentinels, and the goings-on of a tiny water district that fills horse troughs and bathtubs alike. And that's just the beginning of what the Cabazon Water District has to offer in its first-ever video entitled, "Cabazon: Wild West of Water."

The district has produced a five-minute video that captures the can-do spirit and details the history of water in the fiercely self-reliant community of Cabazon.

The video is available to view on YouTube and Vimeo, search Cabazon: Wild West of Water.

The video shows how general manager Calvin Louie, the only fulltime employee, manages to keep the water flowing for a town of 2,500 people. A close-knit staff of five part-timers keeps track of everything from billing to fixing leaky pipelines at three in the morning. And life in small town Cabazon can mean feeding the horses before a water board meeting. The video also highlights the remnants of Cabazon's early water days when "crusty old farmers" built giant reservoirs in the nearby mountains then piped water down to irrigate their crops.