



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137



IN REPLY REFER TO: MT-450

July 11, 2011

## **FAXOGRAM: Water Order Change**

To: Chief, Power Supply and Billing Division, WAPA, Watertown, South Dakota  
Attention: F-6001  
Chief, Power Dispatching Branch, WAPA, Loveland, Colorado  
Attention: J-4120  
Facilities Manager, Hardin, Montana  
Attention: MT-300: Tom Tauscher  
Project Manager, Mills, Wyoming  
Attention: WY-4000, WY-4100, WY-6400  
Assistant Superintendent, National Park Service, Lovell, Wyoming  
Attention: Valerie Newman

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 11-70**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS (July 11, 2011; 6:00 a.m.)**

Elevation: 3650.28 Storage: 1,167,773 acre-feet; River Release: 8,500 cfs; Inflow: 12,600 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Streamflows upstream of Boysen and Buffalo Bill Reservoirs continue to remain well above average, requiring the need to increase releases out of these reservoirs. In addition, WAPA has agreed to increase generation at Yellowtail Powerplant. In response, to control storage and assist the USACE with Flood Operations on the Missouri River Mainstem, the following operation change is required at Yellowtail Dam and Afterbay.

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**At 0800 hour on Monday, July 11, 2011:**

*Increase average daily turbine release to 6,910 cfs ( $\approx$  5,880 MW-Hrs/day using 28.2 cfs/mw).*

### **YELLOWTAIL BYPASS RELEASE:**

**At 0800 hour on Monday, July 11, 2011:**

*Decrease releases through the river outlet gates to  $\approx$  0 cfs  
Increase releases through the spillway gates to  $\approx$  3,420 cfs*

### **AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:**

**At 0800 hour on Monday, July 11, 2011:**

*Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 400 cfs (gage height = 75.21 with -1.41 shift).  
Increase river release to 10,000 cfs (gage height = 63.76 with 0.0 shift).  
Increase total release from the Afterbay to 10,400 cfs.*

### **SPECIAL AFTERBAY OPERATION REQUIREMENT:**

**Maintain the level of the Afterbay at or above elevation 3185.0 until further notice. It is also extremely important to maintain the river stage within +/- 0.06 feet of the river stage set point value.**

/S/ Tim H. Felchle