



# 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 13, 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. 11-72**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS (July 13, 2011; 12:00 a.m.)**

Elevation: 3651.13 Storage: 1,181,272 acre-feet; River Release: 10,000 cfs; Inflow: 13,585 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, adjustments are being made to the Bighorn Canal to accommodate a chemical treatment of the heavy algae growth in the canal. To control storage in Bighorn Lake 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 1600 hour on Wednesday, July 13 through 1600 hour on Thursday, July 14, 2011:**

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

### **YELLOWTAIL BYPASS RELEASE:**

**At 1600 hour on Wednesday, July 13 through 1600 hour on Thursday, July 14, 2011:**

*Increase releases through the spillway gates to  $\approx$  4,420 cfs*

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

**At 1600 hour on Wednesday, July 13, 2011:**

*Increase diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 250 cfs (gage height = 74.07 with -1.41 shift).*

*Increase river release to 11,150 cfs (gage height = 64.16 with 0.0 shift).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 11,400 cfs.*

**At 0800 hour on Thursday, July 14, 2011:**

*Increase diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 325 cfs (gage height = 74.67 with -1.41 shift).*

*Decrease river release to 11,075 cfs (gage height = 64.13 with 0.0 shift).*

*Maintain total release from the Afterbay to 11,400 cfs.*

**At 1200 hour on Thursday, July 14, 2011:**

*Increase diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 400 cfs (gage height = 75.22 with -1.41 shift).*

*Decrease river release to 11,000 cfs (gage height = 64.11 with 0.0 shift).*

*Maintain total release from the Afterbay to 11,400 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