



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 20, 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. 11-75**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS (July 20, 2011; 2:00 p.m.)

Elevation: 3654.28 Storage: 1,232,711 acre-feet; River Release: 11,500 cfs; Inflow: 15,200 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Streamflows in the Bighorn Basin continue to remain well above average, resulting in unusually high releases out of Boysen and Buffalo Bill Reservoirs. To control storage in Bighorn Lake, the following operation change is required at Yellowtail Dam and Afterbay.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 1600 hour on Wednesday, July 20, 2011:

Maintain average daily turbine release at 6,935 cfs (\approx 5,900 MW-Hrs/day using 28.2 cfs/mw).

YELLOWTAIL BYPASS RELEASE:

At 1600 hour on Wednesday, July 20, 2011:

Increase releases through the spillway gates to \approx 5,420 cfs

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1600 hour on Wednesday, July 20, 2011:

Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 425 cfs (gage height = 75.23 with -1.26 shift).

Increase river release to 12,000 cfs (gage height = 64.45 with 0.0 shift).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 12,425 cfs.

SPECIAL AFTERBAY OPERATION REQUIREMENT:

Maintain the level of the Afterbay at or above elevation 3186.5 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