



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

May 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. 11-36**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

Elevation: 3607.91 Storage: 752,095 acre-feet; River Release: 6,500 cfs; Inflow: 7,940 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Snowpack in the Bighorn River Basin remains well above average. As a result of a recent strong spring storm, inflows into Bighorn Lake have increased to nearly 8,000 cfs. In preparation for the increased inflows and anticipated spring snowmelt, releases out of Yellowtail Dam will be increased as follows:

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 1300 hour on Friday, May 13, 2011:

Increase average daily turbine release at 6,280 cfs ($\approx 4,800$ MW-Hrs/day using 31.4 cfs/mw).

YELLOWTAIL BYPASS RELEASE:

At 1300 hour on Friday, May 13, 2011:

Increase release through river outlet gates to 650 cfs.

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1300 hour on Friday, May 13, 2011:

Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.

Increase river release to 7,000 cfs (gage height = 62.72 with -0.12 shift).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 7,000 cfs.

SPECIAL AFTERBAY OPERATION REQUIREMENT:

Maintain the level of the Afterbay at or above elevation 3184.5 until further notice.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle