



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 21, 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. 11-40**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

Elevation: 3606.66 Storage: 745,181 acre-feet; River Release: 7,992 cfs; Inflow: 8,196 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

We have received a request from the Director Montana Department of Transportation requesting as much assistance as we can to protect the 384 bridge. In response we will be reducing the flows from Yellowtail dam to approximately 3500 cfs. We will try to hold this release for the next 24 to 48 hours so the tributaries have an opportunity to recede, after which time we will have to ramp our releases back up.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 2100 hour on Saturday, May 21, 2011:

Maintain average daily turbine release at 3,500 cfs (\approx 2,675 MW-Hrs/day using 31.4 cfs/mw).

YELLOWTAIL BYPASS RELEASE:

At 2100 hour on Saturday, May 21, 2011:

Decrease release through river outlet gates to 0 cfs.

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 2100 hour on Wednesday, May 21, 2011:

Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.

Decrease river release to 3,500 cfs (gage height = 60.86 with -0.12 shift).

Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 3,500 cfs.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle