



# 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 28, 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. 11-46**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS (May 28, 2011: 12:00am)**

Elevation: 3627.18 Storage: 886,345 acre-feet; River Release: 10,000 cfs; Inflow: 13,300 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

The National Weather Service is forecasting significant precipitation across much of Montana and northern Wyoming for Sunday and Monday. As a result, significant increases in streamflows are anticipated. In response, the following operation change is required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant to control reservoir storage and continue preparing for the anticipated snowmelt, the following operations are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant.

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**At 2000 hour on Saturday, May 28, 2011:**

*Maintain average daily turbine release at 5,750 cfs ( $\approx$  4,395 MW-Hrs/day using 31.4 cfs/mw).*

### **YELLOWTAIL BYPASS RELEASE:**

**At 2000 hour on Saturday, May 28, 2011:**

*Decrease all releases through the spillway gates and initiate and maintain releases through the river outlet hollow jet gates at 2,180 cfs.*

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

**At 2000 hour on Saturday, May 28, 2011:**

*Maintain diversions to the bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.*

*Decrease river release to 8,000 cfs (gage height = 63.14 with -0.12 shift).*

*Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 8,000 cfs.*

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

**Maintain the level of the Afterbay at or above elevation 3185.5 until further notice.**

/S/ Tim H. Felchle