



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

June 14, 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. 11-59**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS (June 14, 2011; 10:00 a.m.)

Elevation: 3634.49 Storage: 956,067 acre-feet; River Release: 15,500 cfs; Inflow: 16,600 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Western Area Power Administration has made some accommodations to allow for an increase in turbine releases out of the Yellowtail powerplant. To continue controlling reservoir storage and prepare for the anticipated snowmelt runoff, the following operation changes are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant, in an effort to reduce or minimize erosion occurring adjacent to the spillway stilling basin.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 1200 hour on Tuesday, June 14, 2011:

Increase average daily turbine release to 7,220 cfs (\approx 5,520 MW-Hrs/day using 31.4 cfs/mw).

At 1600 hour on Tuesday, June 14, 2011:

Increase average daily turbine release to 7,690 cfs (\approx 5,880 MW-Hrs/day using 31.4 cfs/mw).

YELLOWTAIL BYPASS RELEASE:

At 1200 hour on Tuesday, June 14, 2011:

Maintain releases through the spillway gates at \approx 6,890 cfs.

Decrease releases through the river outlet evacuation gates to 1,320 cfs.

At 1600 hour on Tuesday, June 14, 2011:

Maintain releases through the spillway gates at \approx 6,890 cfs.

Decrease releases through the river outlet evacuation gates to 850 cfs.

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1200 hour on Tuesday, June 14, 2011:

Maintain diversions to the bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.

Maintain river release at 15,500 cfs (gage height = 65.53 with 0.0 shift).

Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 15,500 cfs.

At 1600 hour on Tuesday, June 14, 2011:

Maintain diversions to the bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.

Maintain river release at 15,500 cfs (gage height = 65.53 with 0.0 shift).

Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 15,500 cfs.

SPECIAL AFTERBAY OPERATION REQUIREMENT:

Maintain the level of the Afterbay at or above elevation 3187.5 until further notice. It is also extremely important to maintain the river stage within +/- 0.06 feet of the river stage set point value. In accordance with the Yellowtail Dam DOC, it is also important to maintain the Yellowtail Dam tailwater elevation below elevation 3190 when discharges through the river outlet gates exceed 4,000 cfs.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle