



# 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 19, 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. 11-74**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS (July 19, 2011; 2:00 p.m.)**

Elevation: 3653.87 Storage: 1,225,893 acre-feet; River Release: 11,000 cfs; Inflow: 14,900 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 and assist with flood operations on the Missouri River mainstem, the following operation changes are required at Yellowtail Dam and Afterbay.

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**At 1600 hour on Tuesday, July 19, 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 Tuesday, July 19, 2011:**

*Increase releases through the spillway gates to  $\approx$  4,920 cfs*

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

**At 1600 hour on Tuesday, July 19, 2011:**

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

*Maintain river release at 11,500 cfs (gage height = 64.28 with 0.0 shift).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 11,925 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