



# 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

September 1, 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. 11-88**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS (September 1, 2011; 10:00 a.m.)**

Elevation: 3643.21 Storage: 1,062,858 acre-feet; River Release: 4,200 cfs; Inflow: 3,315 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Recent streamflow measurements conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey indicates actual river and canal flows are lower than anticipated, due to the rapid and heavy algae growth. To adjust for the variation in flows and continue evacuating flood storage in Bighorn Lake as planned, the following operation changes are required at Yellowtail Dam, Powerplant, and Afterbay applying a new shift of -0.62 to the river gage height and a -0.82 to the canal gage height.

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**At 1400 hour on Thursday, September 1, 2011:**

*Maintain average daily turbine release at 4,530 cfs ( $\approx$  3,430 MW-Hrs/day using 31.7 cfs/mw).*

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

**At 1400 hour on Thursday, September 1, 2011:**

*Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 400 cfs (gage height = 74.62 with -0.82 shift).  
Maintain river release at 4,200 cfs (gage height = 61.80 with -0.62 shift).  
Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 4,600 cfs.*

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

**Maintain the level of the Afterbay at or above elevation 3184.5 until further notice. It is also important to maintain the river stage within +/- 0.06 feet of the river stage set point value.**

/S/ Tim H. Felchle