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# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137



May 23, 2012

## **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. 12-37**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS**

Elevation: 3618.06 Storage: 815,267 acre-feet; River Release: 1,880 cfs; Inflow: 3,880 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

The BIA called and requested an increase in diversions to the Bighorn Canal. In addition, based on the most recent water supply forecast, releases to the Bighorn River will be decreased to conserve storage. As a result, the following operations are required at Yellowtail Dam, Powerplant and Afterbay Dam.

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**At 0800 hour on Wednesday, May 23, 2012:**

*Increase average daily turbine release to 2,370 cfs ( $\approx$  1,300 MW-Hours/day using 43.8 cfs/mw).*

**At 1600 hour on Wednesday, May 23, 2012:**

*Decrease average daily turbine release to 2,240 cfs ( $\approx$  1,230 MW-Hours/day using 43.8 cfs/mw).*

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

**At 0800 hour on Wednesday, May 23, 2012:**

*Increase diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 560 cfs (gage height = 74.15 with shift of +0.65).*

*Maintain river release at 1,880 cfs (gage height = 59.74 with shift of -0.27).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 2,440 cfs.*

**At 1600 hour on Wednesday, May 23, 2012:**

*Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 560 cfs (gage height = 74.15 with shift of +0.65).*

*Decrease river release to 1,750 cfs (gage height = 59.61 with shift of -0.27).*

*Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 2,310 cfs.*

**Special Note: To accomplish ongoing contract work on the Afterbay Dam sluice gates and sluice gate water way, the level of the Afterbay must be maintained between the elevations 3186-3190 at all times.**

/S/ Tim H. Felchle