Yellowtail Dam and Bighorn Lake Operations Review
Recap of Fall and Winter 2016/2017

Setting the Winter Release Rate

- Boysen and Buffalo Bill Release
- Starting and Ending Storage
- April-October Gains

Winter Release Rate
2,610 cfs
Snowpack

Photos by Ryan Miksell, WY SEO
Mountain Snowpack on January 1

SWE = 106% of Average
April-July Forecast = 1,384 kaf (127%)
Mountain Snowpack on February 1

SWE = 117% of Average
April-July Forecast = 1,654 kaf (151%)
Mountain Snowpack on March 1

SWE = 142% of Average
April-July Forecast = 2,099 kaf (192%)
Mountain Snowpack on April 1

SWE = 144% of Average
April-July Forecast = 2,232 kaf (204%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Forecast (kaf)</th>
<th>Actual (kaf)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2,232</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>873</td>
<td>1,032</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>1,093</td>
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</table>
Mountain Snowpack on April 10

April – July Inflow

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Actual (kaf)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2,232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2,572</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>1,957</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>1,093</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- **Average**
- **2017**
- **2011**
- **1997**
Mountain Snowpack in Bighorn Mountains on April 10

Snow Water Equivalent (inches)

- Black: Average
- Red: 2017
- Orange: 2011
- Blue: 1997
2017 Outlook
Bighorn Lake April – July Forecast
Thousands of Acre-feet

Minimum: 1,658
Most: 2,232
Maximum: 2,854
Average: 1,093
Bighorn Lake April through July Inflow
Period of Record 1967-2016

Average = 1,093 kaf

2017 Forecast: 2,232 kaf
2017 Outlook
Most Probable Inflow Operations

- Elevation (feet)

- River Flow (cfs)

- Months: Apr-17, May-17, Jun-17, Jul-17, Aug-17, Sep-17, Oct-17, Nov-17, Dec-17, Jan-18, Feb-18, Mar-18, Apr-18
Most and Minimum Probable Inflow Operations

![Graph showing Most and Minimum Probable Inflow Operations](image-url)

- **Elevation (feet):**
  - Range: 3595 to 3645
- **River Flow (cfs):**
  - Range: 0 to 18,000
Most and Maximum Probable Inflow Operations

![Graph showing Most and Maximum Probable Inflow Operations with elevations and river flow from April 17 to March 18. The graph includes data points for each month, illustrating the trend of elevation and river flow over the time period.]
Most, Minimum, and Maximum Probable Inflow Operations
The information presented at this meeting can be found on the Montana Area Office website at:

www.usbr.gov/gp/mtao/yellowtail/index.html