



# 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

March 12, 2014

## **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-6040  
Assistant Superintendent, National Park Service, Lovell, Wyoming  
Attention: Valerie Newman

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana /S/ Tim H. Felchle

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 14-29**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS**

Elevation: 3630.45; Storage: 915,475 acre-feet; River Release: 4,500 cfs; Inflow: 7,780 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

The scheduled transformer testing outlined in Yellowtail Water Release Order BHR No. 14-25 has been postponed until a later date, tentatively May 12-15.

To allow for scheduled maintenance work on the Yellowtail Dam hollow-jet valves, the Yellowtail Dam tailrace elevation must be maintained no higher than elevation 3190.0 feet during March 24 through May 8, 2014. In response, the following operation is required at Yellowtail Dam, Powerplant, and Afterbay Dam.

**SPECIAL NOTE: To provide the proper mixing of water releases to the Bighorn River in attempt to minimize PSAT levels, it is desirable to maintain the Yellowtail Afterbay Reservoir at or above elevation 3183.0 feet.**

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**During 0700 hour on Monday, March 24 through 1700 hour on Thursday, May 8, 2014:**

*Maintain average daily turbine release at 4,930 cfs ( $\approx$  3,575 MW-Hrs/day using 33.1 cfs/mw).*

**Restrict and limit turbine release to 3-unit capacity.**

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

**During 0700 hour on Monday, March 24 through 1700 hour on Thursday, May 8, 2014:**

*Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.*

*Maintain river release at 5,000 cfs (gage height = 61.64 with 0.0 shift).*

*Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 5,000 cfs.*

### **SPECIAL OPERATIONS:**

**During 0700 hour on Monday, March 24 through 1700 hour on Thursday, May 8, 2014:**

*Maintain Yellowtail Dam tailrace elevation no higher than elevation 3190.0 feet.*