



# 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 8, 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/ Clayton R. Jordan

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 14-64**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:**

Elevation: 3640.16; Storage: 1,022,591 acre-feet; River Release: 6,000 cfs; Inflow: 7,700 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

The BIA requested an increase in diversion to the Bighorn Canal. Release to the Bighorn River will be increased to control the rate of fill of Bighorn Lake and evacuate storage out of the exclusive flood pool. Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) requested total generation from Yellowtail Powerplant be limited to 171 MW/hour. In response, the following operations are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant and Yellowtail 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 between a maximum elevation of 3192.0 feet and a minimum elevation of 3186.0 feet and provide a mixing flow of approximately 75% through the spillway gates and 25% through the sluice gates, plus or minus 10%.**

### **YELLOWTAIL BYPASS RELEASE:**

**At 0800 hour on Wednesday, July 9, 2014:**

*Increase release through the spillway gates to approximately 2,500 cfs.*

**At 1500 hour on Wednesday, July 9, 2014:**

*Increase release through the spillway gates to approximately 3,000 cfs.*

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**At 0800 hour on Wednesday, July 9, 2014:**

*Maintain average daily turbine release at 4,530 cfs ( $\approx$  4,100 MW-Hours/day using 26.5 cfs/mw).*

**At 1500 hour on Wednesday, July 9, 2014:**

*Maintain average daily turbine release at 4,530 cfs ( $\approx$  4,100 MW-Hours/day using 26.5 cfs/mw).*

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

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

**At 0800 hour on Wednesday, July 9, 2014:**

*Increase diversion to the Bighorn Canal to 600 cfs (gage height = 74.56 with -0.22 shift).*

*Increase river release to 6,500 cfs (gage height = 62.82 with -0.44 shift).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 7,100 cfs.*

**At 1500 hour on Wednesday, July 9, 2014:**

*Maintain diversion to the Bighorn Canal at 600 cfs (gage height = 74.56 with -0.22 shift).*

*Increase river release to 7,000 cfs (gage height = 63.04 with -0.44 shift).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 7,600 cfs.*