



# 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

August 13, 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. 14-79**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:**

Elevation: 3639.78; Storage: 1,017,810 acre-feet; River Release: 1,500 cfs; Inflow: 2,900 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Following the recovery effort of a drowning victim near the Two Leggins fishing access site and restoring river flows as quickly as possible, 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 3183.6 feet and provide a mixing flow of approximately 75% through the spillway gates and 25% through the sluice gates, plus or minus 10%.**

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**At 2000 hour on Wednesday, August 13, 2014:**

*Increase average daily turbine release to 2,430 cfs ( $\approx$  1,715 MW-Hours/day using 34.0 cfs/mw).*

**At 0800 hour on Thursday, August 14, 2014:**

*Increase average daily turbine release to 2,930 cfs ( $\approx$  2,070 MW-Hours/day using 34.0 cfs/mw).*

***Due to major unit re-wind project, restrict and limit turbine release to 3-unit capacity.***

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

**At 2000 hour on Wednesday, August 13, 2014:**

*Maintain diversion to the Bighorn Canal at 375 cfs (gage height = 74.23 with -1.23 shift).*

*Increase river release to 2,125 cfs (gage height = 60.24 with -0.55 shift).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 2,500 cfs.*

**At 0800 hour on Thursday, August 14, 2014:**

*Maintain diversion to the Bighorn Canal at 375 cfs (gage height = 74.23 with -1.23 shift).*

*Increase river release to 2,625 cfs (gage height = 60.65 with -0.55 shift).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 3,000 cfs.*