



# 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

September 2, 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. 14-85**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:**

Elevation: 3641.53; Storage: 1,040,265 acre-feet; River Release: 3,050 cfs; Inflow: 4,070 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Inflows continue to stay higher than expected. Releases to the Bighorn River will be increased to evacuate storage out of the exclusive flood control pool. Recent streamflow data indicate actual river flows are lower than anticipated. In response, 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 1600 hour on Wednesday, September 3, 2014:**

*Increase average daily turbine release to 3,705 cfs ( $\approx$  2,985 MW-Hours/day using 29.8 cfs/mw).*

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

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

**At 1600 hour on Wednesday, September 3, 2014:**

*Maintain diversion to the Bighorn Canal at 275 cfs (gage height = 73.52 with a -1.23 shift).*

*Increase river release to 3,500 cfs (increase gage height to 61.80 and apply a new shift of -1.06).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 3,775 cfs.*