



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 17, 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. 14-88**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3641.72; Storage: 1,042,768 acre-feet; River Release: 3,750 cfs; Inflow: 4,450 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

The BIA has requested a decrease in diversions to the Bighorn Canal. Recent streamflow data also indicates actual river flows are lower than anticipated. In addition, to continue evacuating flood storage as planned, releases will be increased. In response, the following operations are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant and Yellowtail Afterbay Dam.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 1300 hour on Wednesday, September 17, 2014:

Increase average daily turbine release to 4,055 cfs (\approx 3,244 MW-Hours/day using 30.0 cfs/mw).

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

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1300 hour on Wednesday, September 17, 2014:

Decrease diversion to the Bighorn Canal to 225 cfs (gage height = 73.12 with a -1.23 shift).

Increase river release to 3,900 cfs (increase gage height to 62.21 and apply a new shift of -1.21 ft).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 4,125 cfs.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS:

During 0800 hour on Tuesday, September 23 through 1700 hour on Wednesday, September 24, 2014:

Maintain the Yellowtail Afterbay Reservoir at or below elevation 3178.5 feet.