



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

January 16, 2015

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. 15-13**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3629.65; Storage: 908,144 acre-feet; River Release: 2,830 cfs; Inflow: 2,320 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

A recent streamflow measurement by the USGS indicates river flows are higher than anticipated. In response, the following operation is 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 Tuesday, January 20, 2015:

Maintain average daily turbine release at $\approx 2,760$ cfs ($\approx 1,890$ MW-Hours/day using 35.0 cfs/mw).

Limit turbine release to 3-unit capacity.

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1600 hour on Tuesday, January 20, 2015:

Maintain diversion to the Bighorn Canal at 0.

Maintain river release at 2,830 cfs (gage height = 60.13 and apply a shift of +0.13 ft).

Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 2,830 cfs.