



# 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

February 11, 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. 15-15**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:**

Elevation: 3628.74; Storage: 899,976 acre-feet; River Release: 2,830 cfs; Inflow: 4,000 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

On Saturday, February 14, 2015, WAPA will be performing work in the switchyard, which will limit turbine releases to only Unit #4 (maximum of  $\approx 62$  MW). 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:**

**During 0900 hour through 1300 hour on Saturday, February 14, 2015:**

*Reduce average daily turbine release to  $\approx 1,800$  cfs ( $\approx 1,185$  MW-Hours/day using 36.5 cfs/mw).*

**Limit turbine release to 1-unit capacity.**

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

**During 0900 hour through 1300 hour on Saturday, February 14, 2015:**

*Maintain diversion to the Bighorn Canal at 0.*

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

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

**After WAPA completes maintenance, normal operations shall return as previously scheduled.**