



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

April 21, 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. 15-27**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3623.08; Storage: 852,698 acre-feet; River Release: 2,200 cfs; Inflow: 2,360 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

The main feed breaker for all river control gate power is being replaced at the Yellowtail Afterbay Dam on April 23, 2015. This will result in control power being lost to all river control gates and instrumentation. This maintenance will require stable Yellowtail Afterbay Reservoir elevation with no turbine release changes until maintenance is completed to maintain a stable river release. If fluctuations in the river release should occur, Afterbay Dam gate changes will be made locally using a standby generator. River gage height fluctuations of +/-0.25 feet will be allowed during this maintenance.

In response, the following operations are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant and Yellowtail Afterbay Dam.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

During 0400 hour through 1700 hour on Thursday, April 23, 2015:

*Maintain average daily turbine release at 2,380 cfs ($\approx 1,275$ MW-Hours/day using 44.7 cfs/mw).
Turbine release must be maintained at the same release rate to keep a stable Yellowtail Afterbay Reservoir elevation and river release.*

Limit turbine release to 3-unit capacity.

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

During 0400 hour through 1700 hour on Thursday, April 23, 2015:

*Maintain diversion to the Bighorn Canal at 250 cfs (gage height = 72.10 with a 0.0 ft shift).
Maintain river release at 2,200 cfs (gage height = 59.71 with a +0.05 ft shift).
Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 2,450 cfs.*