



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 24, 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/ Tim Felchle

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 15-28**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3622.80; Storage: 850,503 acre-feet; River Release: 2,200 cfs; Inflow: 1,985 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

The BIA requested an increase in diversions to Bighorn Canal. Also, recent streamflow measurements by the USGS indicate river flows are lower than anticipated. In response, the following operations are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant and Yellowtail Afterbay Dam.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 1600 hour on Friday, April 24, 2015:

Increase average daily turbine release to 2,430 cfs (\approx 1,590 MW-Hours/day using 36.7 cfs/mw).

Limit turbine release to 3-unit capacity.

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1600 hour on Friday, April 24, 2015:

Increase diversion to Bighorn Canal to 300 cfs (increase gage height to 72.50 and apply new shift of -0.02 ft).

Maintain river release at 2,200 cfs (increase gage height to 59.93 and apply new shift of -0.17 ft).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 2,500 cfs.