



# 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

May 5, 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. 15-30**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:**

Elevation: 3621.32; Storage: 839,106 acre-feet; River Release: 2,200 cfs; Inflow: 2,030 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

The BIA requested an increase in diversions to Bighorn Canal. In response, the following operations are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant and Yellowtail Afterbay Dam.

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**At 0800 hour on Wednesday, May 6, 2015:**

*Increase average daily turbine release to 2,480 cfs ( $\approx$  1,575 MW-Hours/day using 37.8 cfs/mw).*

**Limit turbine release to 3-unit capacity.**

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

**At 0800 hour on Wednesday, May 6, 2015:**

*Increase diversion to Bighorn Canal to 350 cfs (gage height = 72.85 with a -0.02 ft shift).*

*Maintain river release at 2,200 cfs (gage height = 59.93 with a -0.17 ft shift).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 2,550 cfs.*