



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

June 10, 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. 15-47**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3642.65; Storage: 1,055,213 acre-feet; River Release: 14,000 cfs; Inflow: 16,500 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Releases to the Bighorn River are temporarily being reduced to accommodate a portion of the on-going maintenance on the Yellowtail Afterbay Dam sluiceway gates. Releases will be increased back to 14,000 cfs once this portion of the maintenance on the sluiceway gates is completed. The following operations are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant and Yellowtail Afterbay Dam.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 0700 hour on Thursday, June 11, 2015:

Maintain average daily turbine release at 4,830 cfs (\approx 3,480 MW-Hours/day using 33.3 cfs/mw).

At approximately 1500 hour on Thursday, June 11, 2015:

Maintain average daily turbine release at 4,830 cfs (\approx 3,480 MW-Hours/day using 33.3 cfs/mw).

Limit turbine release to 3-unit capacity.

YELLOWTAIL BYPASS RELEASE:

At 0700 hour on Thursday, June 11, 2015:

Decrease release through the spillway gates to \approx 8,425 cfs.

At approximately 1500 hour on Thursday, June 11, 2015:

Increase release through the spillway gates to \approx 9,425 cfs.

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 0700 hour on Thursday, June 11, 2015:

Maintain diversion to Bighorn Canal at 325 cfs (gage height = 72.66 with a 0.0 ft shift).

Decrease river release to 13,000 cfs (gage height = 64.66 with a +0.11 ft shift).

Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 13,325 cfs.

At approximately 1500 hour on Thursday, June 11, 2015:

Maintain diversion to Bighorn Canal at 325 cfs (gage height = 72.66 with a 0.0 ft shift).

Increase river release to 14,000 cfs (gage height = 64.99 with a +0.11 ft shift).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 14,325 cfs.

SPECIAL NOTE: River Releases will be increased to 14,000 cfs upon completion of this portion of the Yellowtail Afterbay Dam sluiceway gate maintenance.