



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 25, 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. 15-50**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3647.04; Storage: 1,117,973 acre-feet; River Release: 13,000 cfs; Inflow: 10,930 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

The BIA has requested an increase in diversion to the Bighorn Canal. Releases to the Bighorn River will be decreased as inflows into Bighorn Lake have continued to decline. The following operations are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant and Yellowtail Afterbay Dam.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 1500 hour on Thursday, June 25, 2015:

Maintain average daily turbine release at 4,410 cfs (\approx 3,480 MW-Hours/day using 30.4 cfs/mw).

Limit turbine release to 3-unit capacity.

YELLOWTAIL BYPASS RELEASE:

At 1500 hour on Thursday, June 25, 2015:

Maintain release through the spillway gates at \approx 6,620 cfs.

At 1500 hour on Thursday, June 25, 2015:

Decrease release through the river outlet works to \approx 1,350 cfs.

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1500 hour on Thursday, June 25, 2015:

Increase diversion to Bighorn Canal to 450 cfs (gage height = 73.48 with a 0.0 ft shift).

Decrease river release to 12,000 cfs (gage height = 64.34 with a +0.11 ft shift).

Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 12,450 cfs.