



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 26, 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. 15-51**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3646.72; Storage: 1,113,205 acre-feet; River Release: 12,000 cfs; Inflow: 10,315 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

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 Friday, June 26, 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.

At 1500 hour on Saturday, June 27, 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.

At 1500 hour on Sunday, June 28, 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 Friday, June 26, 2015:

Increase release through the spillway gates to \approx 6,970 cfs.

At 1500 hour on Friday, June 26, 2015:

Decrease release through the river outlet works to 0 cfs.

At 1500 hour on Saturday, June 27, 2015:

Decrease release through the spillway gates to \approx 5,970 cfs.

At 1500 hour on Saturday, June 27, 2015:

Maintain release through the river outlet works at 0 cfs.

At 1500 hour on Sunday, June 28, 2015:

Decrease release through the spillway gates to \approx 4,970 cfs.

At 1500 hour on Sunday, June 28, 2015:

Maintain release through the river outlet works at 0 cfs.

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1500 hour on Friday, June 26, 2015:

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

Decrease river release to 11,000 cfs (gage height = 63.99 with a +0.11 ft shift).

Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 11,450 cfs.

At 1500 hour on Saturday, June 27, 2015:

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

Decrease river release to 10,000 cfs (gage height = 63.66 with a +0.11 ft shift).

Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 10,450 cfs.

At 1500 hour on Sunday, June 28, 2015:

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

Decrease river release to 9,000 cfs (gage height = 63.29 with a +0.11 ft shift).

Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 9,450 cfs.