



IN REPLY REFER TO: MT-450

# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137

May 31, 2006



## **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-6400  
Assistant Superintendent, National Park Service, Lovell, Wyoming  
Attention: Jim Staebler

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 06-25**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:**

Elevation: 3611.11; Storage: 810,327 acre-feet; River Release: 2,250 cfs; Inflow: 3,270 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

The diversions to the Bighorn Canal that was previously scheduled for 0800 hour in water release order BHR No. 06-25 is revised to show the change being made at 1300 hour. In response, the following operation change is required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant.

**NOTE: This is the time period when fish are more susceptible to high levels of nitrogen gas super-saturation. To provide a more desirable mixing flow of approximately 75% through the spillway gates and 25% through the sluice gates to maintain the total gas super-saturation levels at safe limits, the minimum Afterbay elevation should be maintained at or above elevation 3183 whenever possible. This is only a soft limit and may be deviated from during special or emergency operations.**

### **TURBINE RELEASES:**

**At 1300 hour on Wednesday, May 31, 2006:**

*Increase average daily turbine release to 2,580 cfs ( $\approx 1,720$  MW-Hrs/day using 36.0 cfs/mw).*

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

**At 1300 hour on Wednesday, May 31, 2006:**

*Increase diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 400 cfs (gage height = 73.80 with 0.0 shift).*

*Maintain river release at 2,250 cfs (gage height = 60.29 with a shift of -0.49).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 2,650 cfs.*

/S/ Tim H. Felchle