



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



August 22, 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. 06-35**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3599.42; Storage: 741,392 acre-feet; River Release: 1,500 cfs; Inflow: 1,634 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

A 12-day maintenance outage is scheduled on the Afterbay Dam sluice gates for August 21-September 1. During this time, the level of the Afterbay must be maintained between elevations 3183 and 3190 to sufficiently release the required flow to the Bighorn River. As a result the following operation is required. It is anticipated the maintenance outage may be completed ahead of schedule and all restrictions on the Afterbay levels will be removed at that time.

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:

Beginning at 1000 hour on Monday, August 21, 2006:

Maintain average daily turbine release at 2,430 cfs (\approx 1,455 MW-Hrs/day using 40.1 cfs/mw).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

Beginning at 1000 hour on Monday, August 21, 2006:

Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 435 cfs (gage height at 74.32 using a shift of -0.28).

Maintain river release at 1,500 cfs (gage height at 59.30 using shift of -0.23).

Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 1,935 cfs.

Special Note: The level of the Afterbay must be maintained between elevations 3183 and 3190 to adequately allow for proper maintenance on the sluice gates.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle