



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 25, 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. 06-36**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3599.07; Storage: 739,476 acre-feet; River Release: 1,500 cfs; Inflow: 1,550 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

The BIA requested an increase in diversions to the Bighorn Canal. In response, this FAXOGRAM confirms the actual operation change that was made at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant on August 24, 2006.

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 1400 hour on Thursday, August 24, 2006:

Increase average daily turbine release to 1,900 cfs (\approx 1,060 MW-Hrs/day using 43.0 cfs/mw).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

Beginning at 1400 hour on Thursday, August 24, 2006:

Increase diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 470 cfs (gage height at 74.53 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 1,970 cfs.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle