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# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137



June 7, 2007

## **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. 07-23**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:**

Elevation: 3629.69; Storage: 956,552 acre-feet; River Release: 1,500 cfs; Inflow: 4,840 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Due to recent heavy precipitation, the BIA has requested all irrigation deliveries to the Bighorn Canal to be discontinued. 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 0900 hour on Thursday, June 7, 2007:**

*Decrease average daily turbine release to 1,430 cfs ( $\approx$  787 MW-Hrs/day using 43.6 cfs/mw).*

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

**At 0900 hour on Thursday, June 7, 2007:**

*Decrease diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 0 cfs (gage height = 71.02 with -0.19 shift).*

*Maintain river release at 1,500 cfs (gage height = 59.15 with a shift of -0.08).*

*Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 1,500 cfs.*

/S/ Tim H. Felchle