



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



April 25, 2008

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. 08-14**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3609.72; Storage: 801,457 acre-feet; River Release: 1,900 cfs; Inflow: 1,730 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

The BIA called and requested an increase in diversions to the Bighorn Canal to meet irrigation demands. In response, the following operation changes are required at Yellowtail Dam, Powerplant, and Afterbay as follows.

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 Monday, April 28, 2008:

Increase average daily turbine release to 2,080 cfs (\approx 1,245 MW-Hrs/day using 40.1 cfs/mw).

At 1600 hour on Monday, April 28, 2008:

Increase average daily turbine release to 2,130 cfs (\approx 1,275 MW-Hrs/day using 40.1 cfs/mw).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 0900 hour on Monday, April 28, 2008:

Increase diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 250 cfs (gage height = 72.66 with 0.0 shift).

Maintain river release at 1,900 cfs (gage height = 59.54 with a shift of -0.05).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 2,150 cfs.

At 1600 hour on Monday, April 28, 2008:

Increase diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 300 cfs (gage height = 73.07 with 0.0 shift).

Maintain river release at 1,900 cfs (gage height = 59.54 with a shift of -0.05).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 2,200 cfs.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle