



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



June 4, 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. 08-24**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3629.46; Storage: 954,363 acre-feet; River Release: 5,470 cfs; Inflow: 10,570 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Due to reduced irrigation demands, the BIA called and requested a reduction in diversions to the Bighorn Canal. In response, water release order BHR No. 08-23 is hereby revised 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 1800 hour on Wednesday, June 4, 2008:

Increase average daily turbine release to 6,130 cfs (\approx 5,025 MW-Hrs/day using 31.8 cfs/mw).

At 0600 hour on Thursday, June 5, 2008:

Increase average daily turbine release to 6,630 cfs (\approx 5,000 MW-Hrs/day using 31.8 cfs/mw).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1800 hour on Wednesday, June 4, 2008:

Decrease diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 200 cfs (gage height = 72.21 with 0.0 shift).

Increase release to Bighorn River to 6,000 cfs (gage height = 62.19 with a shift of -0.05).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 6,200 cfs.

At 0600 hour on Thursday, June 5, 2008:

Decrease diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 200 cfs (gage height = 72.21 with 0.0 shift).

Increase release to Bighorn River to 6,500 cfs (gage height = 62.42 with a shift of -0.05).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 6,700 cfs.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle