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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



August 28, 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. 08-54**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:**

Elevation: 3638.38; Storage: 1,050,039 acre-feet; River Release: 2,650 cfs; Inflow: 1,950 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

The BIA called and requested an additional increase in diversions to the Bighorn Canal. In response the following operation changes are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant.

**NOTE: This is the time period when fish are less affected by high levels of nitrogen gas super-saturation. Since mixing flows through the spillway gates and the sluice gates is not required at this time, it is still desirable to provide a mixing flow of approximately 75% through the spillway gates and 25% through the sluice gates whenever the level of the Afterbay allows for flows to be released through the spillway gates.**

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**At 1600 hour on Thursday, August 28, 2008:**

*Increase average daily turbine release to  $\approx 2,830$  cfs ( $\approx 1,880$  MW-Hrs/day using 36.1 cfs/mw).*

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

**At 1600 hour on Thursday, August 28, 2008:**

*Increase diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 400 cfs (gage height = 74.17 with -0.37 shift).*

*Maintain river release at 2,500 cfs (gage height = 60.85 with new shift of -0.85).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 2,900 cfs.*

/S/ Tim H. Felchle