



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 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. 08-55**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

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

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Due to Labor Day Weekend, The BIA called and requested an additional increase in diversions to the Bighorn Canal. In response, Water Release Order – BHR No. 08-54 is hereby revised with the following operation change 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 $\approx 2,855$ cfs ($\approx 1,900$ 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 425 cfs (gage height = 74.34 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 2,925 cfs.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle