



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



September 5, 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. 08-57**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3638.70; Storage: 1,053,922 acre-feet; River Release: 2,500 cfs; Inflow: 3,950 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

This water order confirms the operation change made on September 4, 2008. Due to recent precipitation received over the past weekend, the BIA called and requested an additional reduction in diversions to the Bighorn Canal. In response, the following operation change was made 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 1700 hour on Thursday, September 4, 2008:

Maintain average daily turbine release at $\approx 2,805$ cfs ($\approx 1,850$ MW-Hrs/day using 36.4 cfs/mw).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1700 hour on Thursday, September 4, 2008:

Decrease diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 325 cfs (gage height = 73.63 with -0.37 shift).

Increase river release to 2,550 cfs (gage height = 61.14 with shift of -1.10).

Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 2,875 cfs.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle