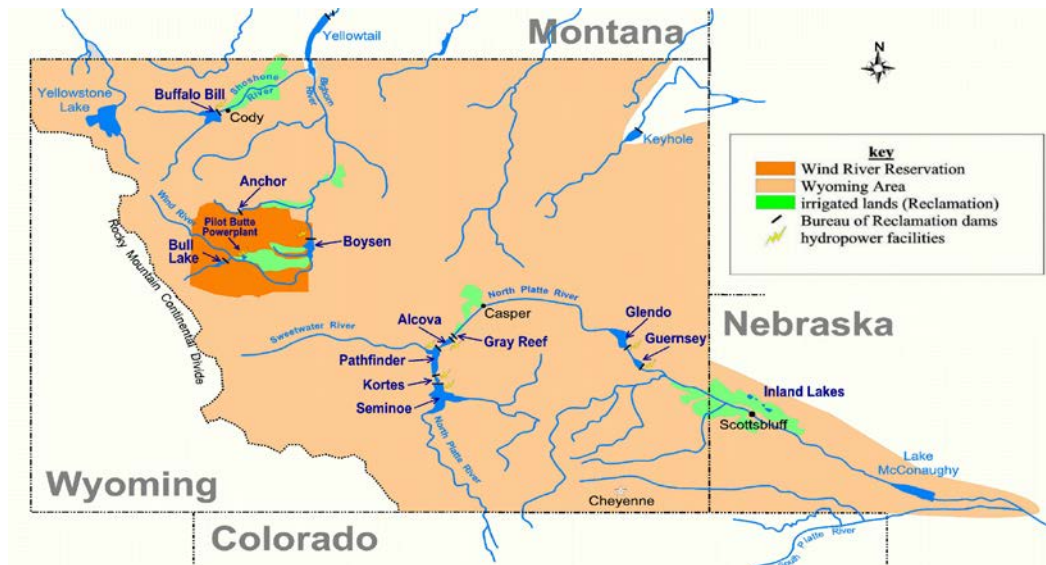


# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

Bighorn Basin  
Water Supply and Utilization Report  
Wyoming Area Office  
Report for August 2016



The Wyoming Area Office of the Bureau of Reclamation is responsible for the operation of Reclamation reservoirs in Wyoming east of the Continental Divide except for Keyhole Reservoir. Four off-stream reservoirs in Nebraska commonly referred to as the Inland Lakes also fall within the Wyoming Area. The North Platte River Basin Reservoirs have a combined storage capacity of 2,800,000 acre-feet. The major reservoirs in the Shoshone and Wind/Bighorn Basins have a combined storage capacity of 1,600,000 acre-feet.



United States of America  
Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Wyoming Area Office  
P.O. Box 1630  
Mills, Wyoming 82644-1630

**Report for August 2016  
WATER SUPPLY AND UTILIZATION REPORT  
BIGHORN RIVER BASIN  
WYOMING AREA OFFICE**

**This report concerns the operation of Reclamation facilities in the Shoshone and Wind/Bighorn River Basins.**

**Reclamation defines a water year as the time period of October 1 through September 30. Water year is abbreviated in this report as W. Yr.**

**Other organizations furnished information for the Water Supply and Utilization Report. Their cooperation is greatly appreciated.**

**This report is available on the Internet and can be accessed by following these steps:**

- 1. Log on to the Great Plains Home Page at <http://www.usbr.gov/gp>**
- 2. Select Water Operations.**
- 3. Select Water Management Information.**
- 4. Select Water Supply Report.**
- 5. Under Bighorn Basin, select the current report or reports from the previous 12 months**

**BIGHORN RIVER BASIN INFLOW**

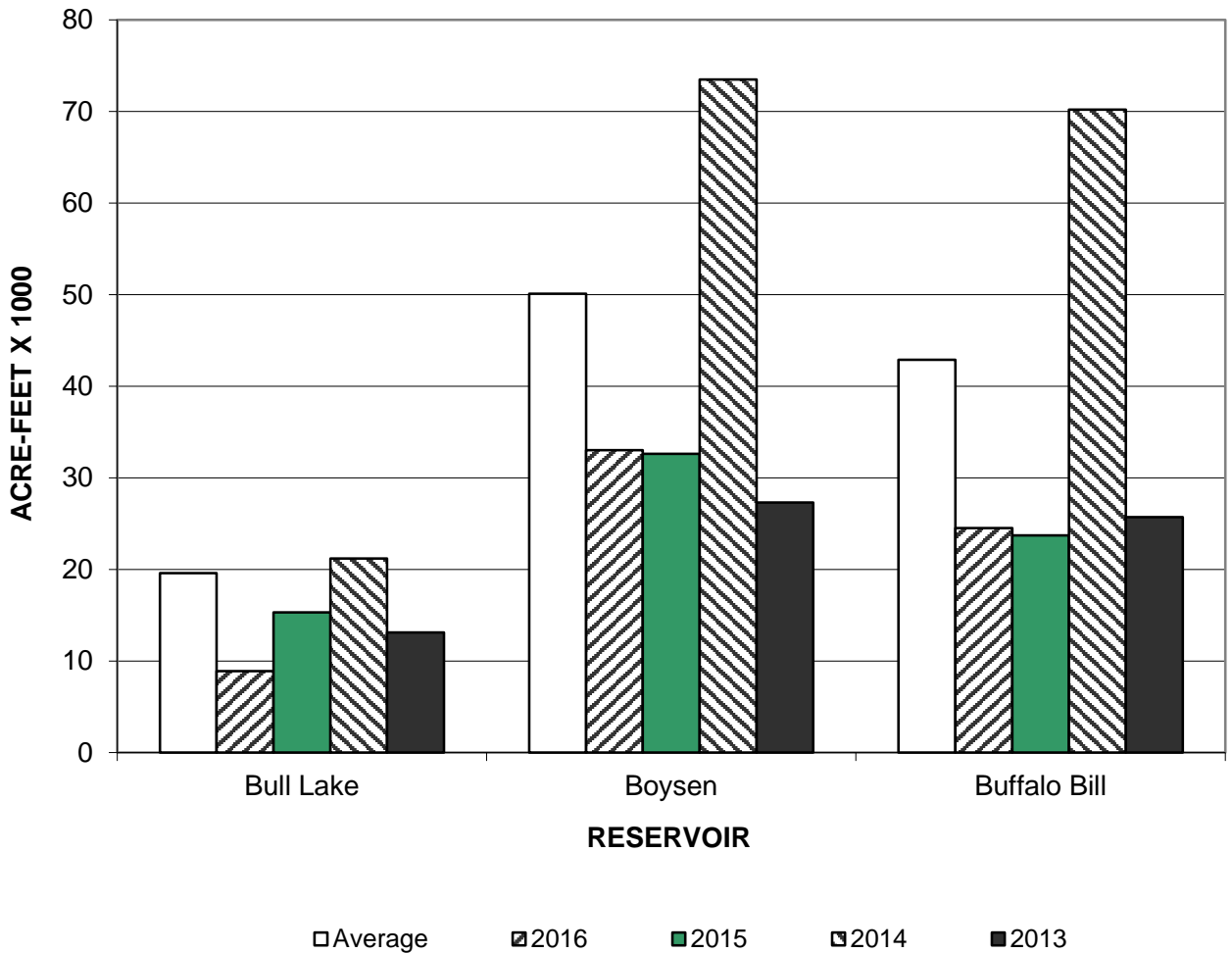
September inflow was below average at Bull Lake, Boysen and Buffalo Bill Reservoirs.

(1000 acre-feet)

Reservoir	August Inflow			August Historical Inflow			Accumulated Inflow (October-August)		
	W. Yr. 2016	30 Yr. Avg. <sup>1</sup>	% of Avg.	W. Yr. 2015	W. Yr. 2014	W. Yr. 2013	W. Yr. 2016	30 Yr. Avg.	% of Avg.
Bull Lake	8.9	19.6	45	15.3	21.2	13.1	174.5	173.2	101
Boysen	33.0	50.1	66	32.6	73.5	27.3	1031.1	862.0	120
Buffalo Bill	24.5	42.9	57	23.7	70.2	25.7	733.5	839.1	87

<sup>1</sup> Average is based on the 1985-2015 period.

**BIGHORN RIVER BASIN  
RESERVOIR INFLOW  
August**



## BIGHORN RIVER BASIN OUTFLOW

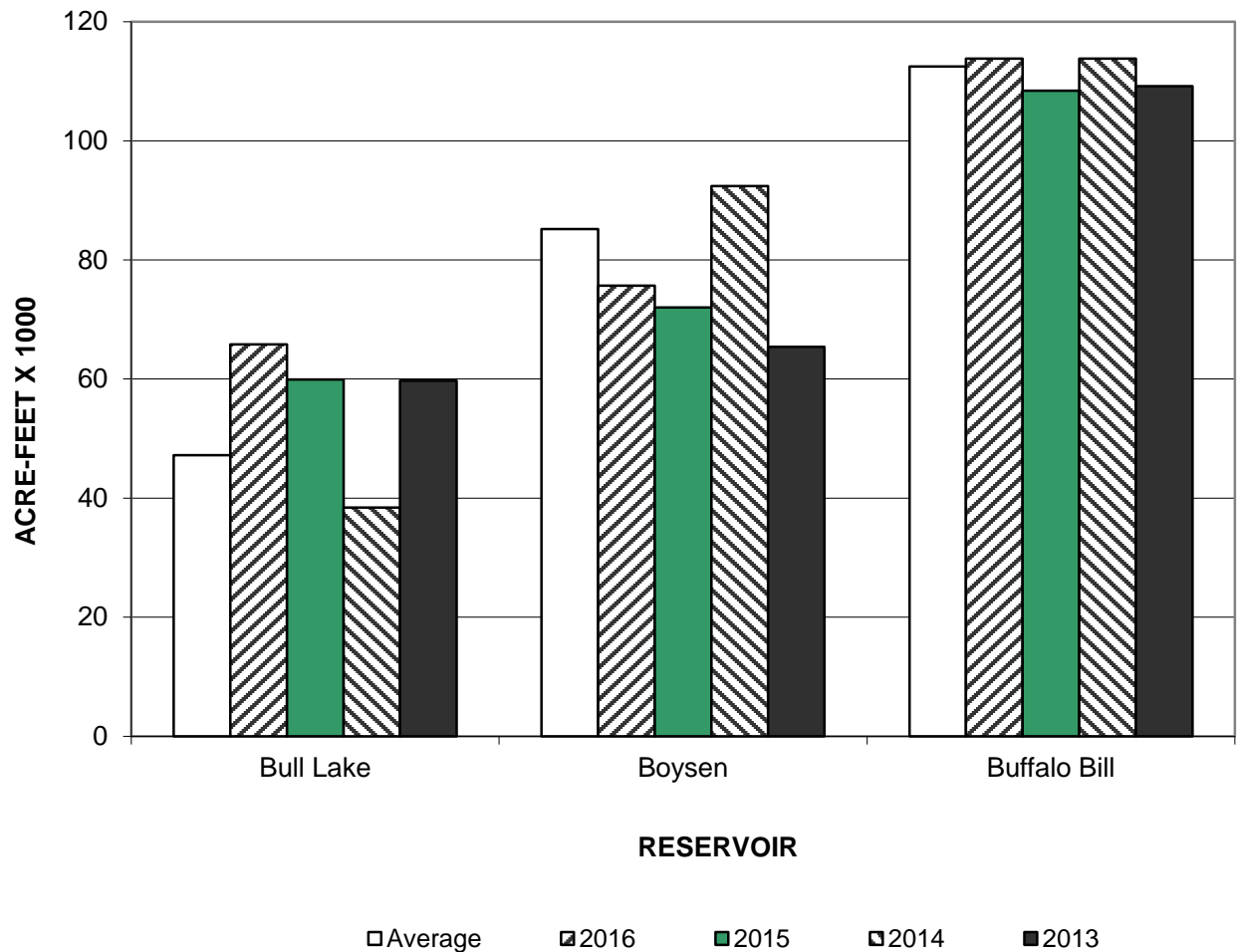
September releases from Bull Lake and Buffalo Bill were near or above average and below average for Boysen.

(1000 acre-feet)

Reservoir	August Outflow			August Historical Outflow			Accumulated Outflow (October-August)		
	W. Yr. 2016	30 Yr. Avg. <sup>1</sup>	% of Avg.	W. Yr. 2015	W. Yr. 2014	W. Yr. 2013	W. Yr. 2016	30 Yr. Avg.	% of Avg.
Bull Lake	65.8	47.2	139	59.9	38.4	59.7	170.3	174.5	98
Boysen	75.7	85.2	89	72.0	92.4	65.4	1030.5	840.3	123
Buffalo Bill	113.8	112.5	101	108.4	113.8	109.2	680.7	856.2	80

<sup>1</sup> Average is based on the 1985-2015 period.

## BIGHORN RIVER BASIN RESERVOIR OUTFLOW August



**BIGHORN RIVER BASIN STORAGE**

Storage at the end of August was below average at all Bighorn Basin Reservoirs except Boysen Reservoir.

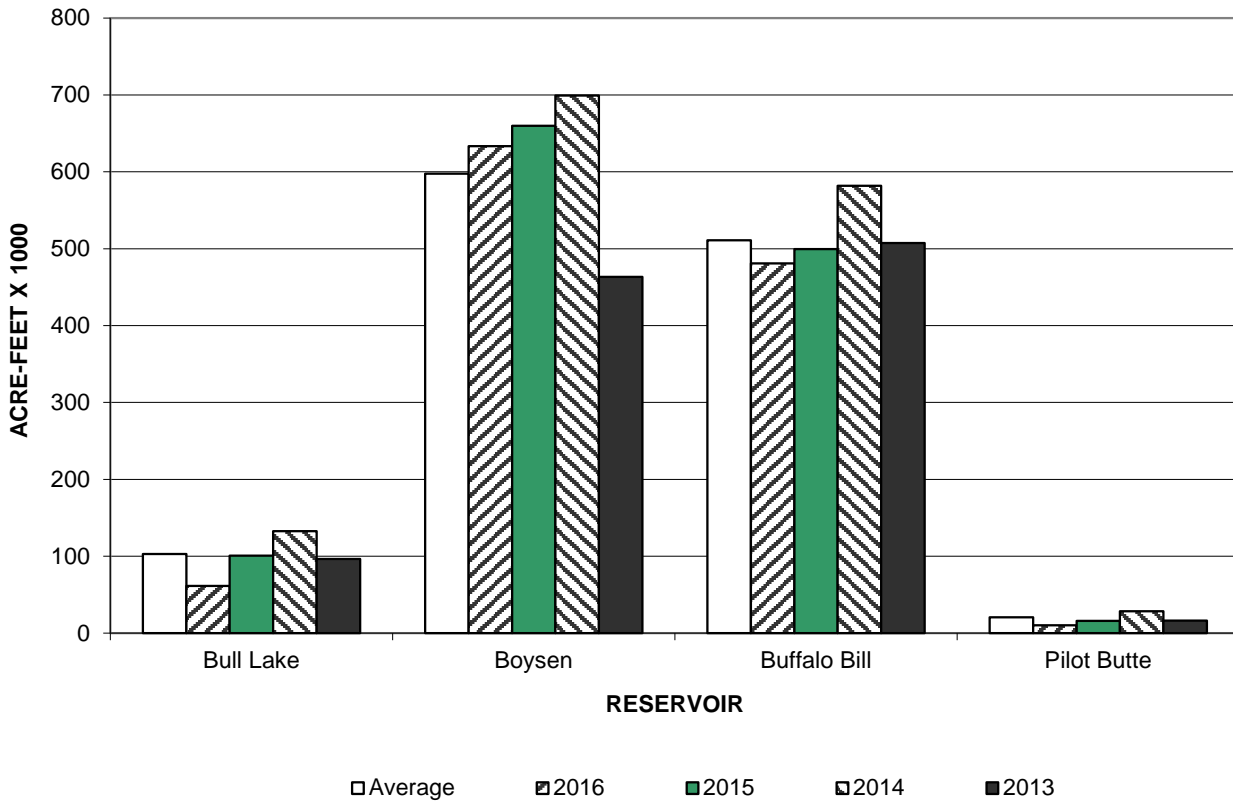
(1000 acre-feet)

Reservoir	Total Storage End of August			End of August Historical Storage			Total Conservation Storage Capacity	Percent of Capacity
	W. Yr. 2016	30 Yr. Avg. <sup>1</sup>	% of Avg.	W. Yr. 2015	W. Yr. 2014	W. Yr. 2013		
Bull Lake	61.3	103.0	60	100.9	132.6	96.4	152.5	40
Boysen	633.5	597.6	106	660.0	699.2	463.5	741.6	85
Buffalo Bill	481.0	511.1 <sup>2</sup>	94	499.7	581.9	507.5	646.6	74
Pilot Butte	10.2	20.5	50	16.1	28.5	16.2	33.7	30

<sup>1</sup> Average is based on the 1985-2015 period.

<sup>2</sup> This does not reflect a long term average because in 1992 the capacity of the reservoir was increased to approximately 646,565 acre-feet as a result of raising the dam. The average used here reflects data from 1993 through 2015.

**BIGHORN RIVER BASIN  
RESERVOIR STORAGE  
End of August**



## BIGHORN RIVER BASIN GENERATION

Generation during August was below average at Boysen, Buffalo Bill, and Shoshone Powerplants.

(Energy in giga-watt hours)

Powerplant	August Gross Generation			August Historical Generation			Accumulated Gross Gen. (October-August)		
	W. Yr. 2016	Avg.	% of Avg.	W. Yr. 2015	W. Yr. 2014	W. Yr. 2013	W. Yr. 2016	Avg.	% of Avg.
Boysen <sup>1</sup>	6.4	6.8	94	6.0	8.6	4.8	63.4	55.7	114
Pilot Butte <sup>2</sup>	0.0	0.6	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	0
Heart Mtn. <sup>3</sup>	3.2	2.9	110	2.9	3.3	3.3	15.1	12.3	123
Buffalo Bill <sup>3</sup>	8.2	9.7	85	8.5	9.2	7.7	53.5	61.8	87
Shoshone <sup>3</sup>	1.8	2.1	86	1.8	2.0	2.0	15.4	18.6	83
Spirit Mtn. <sup>4</sup>	3.1	3.2	97	3.2	3.4	3.3	14.4	12.7	113

<sup>1</sup> Average is based on the 1985-2015 period.

<sup>2</sup> Average is based on the 1990-2015 period. Pilot Butte Powerplant is currently in "mothballed" status and does not generate electricity.

<sup>3</sup> Average is based on the 1993-2015 period.

<sup>4</sup> Average is based on the 1996-2015 period.

### BIGHORN RIVER BASIN GROSS GENERATION August

