

**Yellowtail Dam, Reservoir and Powerplant 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
September 10, 2016**

This is a great occasion. Construction of the Yellowtail Dam 50 years ago was a tremendous accomplishment and I am so pleased to be able to be a part of the 50-year celebration.

When this project was first placed on the drawing board, I'm sure the developers had great expectations and Yellowtail has certainly met and exceeded those expectations. Developed for flood control, irrigation, recreation and electric power generation, it's certainly provided all of those and more. I am sure all of us very much appreciate the recreation opportunities. I know I have enjoyed countless hours with my family boating, water skiing and fishing here in the reservoir and river.

Working for the Western Area Power Administration, I really focus day to day on the power generation. Yellowtail has generated 42 billion kilowatt hours of clean, renewable electric power from 1966 to 2015—enough to power a little over 4 million typical households for an entire year, a value of 1.2 billion dollars at today's prices. And it's not done. It continues to provide low cost clean, renewable electric power now and into the future. The Western Area Power Administration provides this power to the irrigation loads, cooperatives, municipalities, Native American tribes, state and federal loads on an at-cost basis benefiting our entire Upper Great Plains region.

Enjoy this great celebration and congratulations to the Bureau of Reclamation on 50 very successful years here at the Yellowtail Project and all it brings to our great country.

