

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

How it Works: John W. Keys III Pump-Generating Plant

[Music]

Paul Pitzer: The goal of irrigating the Columbia Basin project was always there, just sidetracked for a few years during the war. The government then began working on building the pump station, putting in a number of rather unique generators, which can be used to pump water up the hill and from the reservoir it creates up the hill in Banks Lake. The water can during peak power periods be channeled down through these units to generate power. It's a very clever concept, and it gets water up the hill into the lake to then be channeled on down into the irrigation project.

[Music]