

## Upgrades strengthen renewable power at Cooper Lake



*The new hydropower turbine at Cooper Lake*

Two recent upgrades at the Cooper Lake Hydroelectric Plant are helping ensure one of Chugach's most important renewable energy resources continues delivering reliable power to our members.

The upgrades included improvements to both the plant's control systems and its turbine — the heart of the hydroelectric facility. While most of the work happened behind the scenes, the benefits will be felt across the electric system.

The new control system replaces equipment that had been in service for decades, giving operators better tools to monitor plant performance,

respond to issues more quickly, and keep the facility running smoothly. At the same time, crews upgraded the turbine runner, the component that captures the energy of flowing water and converts it into electricity. The redesigned runner allows the plant to operate more efficiently and adapt to changing power needs throughout the day.

These improvements are especially important as more renewable resources are added to the Railbelt grid. They improve reliability, increase operating flexibility, and help maximize the value of clean, renewable hydroelectric power.

## Chugach adds EV fast-charging stations

Cooper Landing and Moose Pass are the latest communities in the Chugach service territory to gain modern electric vehicle (EV) fast-charging stations. New chargers in those locations will be available in July, with additional sites in Girdwood and South Anchorage available by fall. The Cooper Landing EV charging site is at the new Three Bears and the Moose Pass site is next to the Estes Brothers Grocery.

"These new fast chargers are game changers for EV drivers," said Chugach CEO Arthur Miller. "The expansion of high-speed charging along the Railbelt is enabling Chugach members and other EV owners to travel with confidence on Alaska highways."

Chugach's new charging sites feature 400 kW chargers capable of charging most EVs in under 30 minutes and cut the distance between charging sites in half. Chugach's sites compliment new Supercharger stations in Fairbanks, Nenana, Cantwell, Trapper Creek, and at the Muldoon Fred Meyer in Anchorage. To learn more and explore charging locations, visit [www.chugachelectric.com/ev](http://www.chugachelectric.com/ev). {191377510}



*EV fast chargers being installed in Cooper Landing*

# Chugach helps reduce fire danger in Girdwood

For the third year, Chugach's tree-trimming crew hosted a wood lot in Girdwood, giving residents a place to bring branches and brush for chipping. The effort will help reduce wildfire risk and keep utility easements clear, allowing for safer maintenance and outage restoration.

Truckloads of wood chips were delivered to the Girdwood Forest Fair and leafy branches hauled to the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center to be used for animal browse. Thank you to Girdwood Fire and Rescue for helping to support the event. {191326026}



## In the community: Energizing every mile



Chugach supported two key running events in Anchorage this season. In addition to the corporate sponsorship of the Alaska Run for Women, Chugach employees raised over \$1,200 for breast cancer awareness, research, and support programs.

As a corporate sponsor of the Anchorage Mayor's Marathon, taking place on summer solstice weekend, several employees took part including the relay team "Watt's the Rush." Money from the Mayor's Marathon supports the Parks and Recreation Department and the UAA Athletic Department.

### CHUGACH EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

*From Engineering to Operations to Member Services, all of Chugach's roughly 450 employees live and work in Alaska.*

*Each month we introduce you to one of our employees who works every day to provide safe, reliable power to our members.*



**Name:** John Pakkala  
**Position:** Relay/Control Wiring Tech  
**Time at Chugach:** 10 years

John says his proudest accomplishment at work was successfully commissioning the protection and controls for Substation 3, which was the first project he led as a Relay Technician.

### Green Corner Reducing our carbon footprint



Tired of pulling a string to start your lawn mower? Do you keep spilling oil and gas when filling up your weed eater? Switch to battery powered yard tools and save on fuel costs, reduce noise, enjoy lower maintenance costs, and reduce emissions.



#### The Outlet

A Publication of Chugach Electric Association, Inc.  
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