

Permit Memo
CHUGACH ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Anchorage Alaska

February 19, 2026

TO: Elijah Cook, Design Engineer
Marshall Elliott, Sr. Design Engineer
Devon Lamothe, Distribution Design Manager

FROM: Cynthia Coughlin, Right of Way Manager *CC*

SUBJECT: USFS – Permit 4003.07 - Portage SS to beginning of Whittier Tunnel (Holland America- Portage rebuild, 322 Feeder Reconductor SI), E2214092/ PMT 25139
CEA Map P001, 3,4,5,6,7,8,9 &10

US Forestry Service Permit – Amendment #36 - no expire date

A copy of this permit must be on the job site at all times during construction.

After construction is completed, fill in the following information and return to Land Services.

- 1) Date of construction: _____
- 2) Contractor: _____
- 3) Crew Foreman: _____
- 4) If pavement cut: _____
 - a) Date pavement patched: _____
 - b) Pavement patch contractor: _____
- 5) Comments: _____

.....
For Land Services Use Only

Date returned: _____
Comments: _____

Auth ID: SEW400307
Contact Name: CHUGACH ELECTRIC
ASSOCIATION, INC
Use Code: 641

FS-2700-23 (09/2020)
OMB No. 0596-0082

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
AMENDMENT FOR
SPECIAL USE AUTHORIZATION
NUMBER 36**

This amendment is attached to and made a part of special use authorization for construction, operation and maintenance of electric distribution line, SEW400307, issued to CHUGACH ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC on 09/15/1981, which is hereby amended as follows:

Authorizes the Portage to Whittier Shore Power Rebuild

The rebuild of approximately 5 miles of overhead electrical facilities through Portage valley, between the substation located east of the Seward Highway and Portage Glacier Highway intersection, to Section 14, T8N, R3E west of the Tunnel. All utility poles and conductors will be replaced, six of the existing wooden poles will be replaced with pile driven metal poles. The rebuild will be within the existing Chugach Electric Association (CEA) 40ft Right-of-way (ROW) corridor, except in isolated areas CEA will realign the distribution line and associated 40ft ROW as shown on **Appendix A-Design Plans**. The utility line upgrade is to accommodate the shore power requirements of cruise ships docked in Whittier.

Removal and Replacement of Existing Concrete Pads and Switch Cabinets

At the end of the Portage to Whittier Shore Power rebuild, in Section 14, T8N, R3E, the existing four concrete pads will be removed and replaced. The existing four switch cabinets will be replaced with three new switch cabinets and one voltage regulator. The concrete pads will be 114 inches (W) x 114 (L) inches and buried 18 inches deep, on top of 2 foot of D-1 crushed gravel. **See SEW400307 Amendment 36 Appendix A – page 22 of 34.**

Authorizes a Storage Area to House Switch Cabinets

At the end of the Portage to Whittier Shore Power rebuild, in Section 14, T8N, R3E, the Holder is authorized a 90-foot x 20-foot area, outside of and adjacent to, the existing right-of-way. Three concrete pads will be placed to hold switch cabinets in the future that will support the Shore Power upgrade. The concrete pads will be 108 inches x 78 inches and buried 2 feet deep. D-1 crushed gravel will be added for leveling. The switch cabinets (79 inches x 65 inches) will be placed on top of the concrete pads. **See SEW400307 Amendment 36 Appendix A – page 22 of 34.**

Project specific stipulations are identified in **SEW400307 Amendment 36 – Appendix B.**

This Amendment is accepted subject to all its terms, including any attachments.

Chugach Electric Association, Inc


Holder Signature

Cynthia Coughlin
Manager, Land Services

Holder Name and Title

2/19/2026

Date

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE


Digitally signed by JENNIFER
YOUNGBLOOD
Date: 2026.02.19 13:54:04 -09'00'
Authorized Officer Signature

Jennifer K. Youngblood
FOREST SUPERVISOR

Name and Title

February 19, 2026

Date

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0596-0082. Response to this collection of information is mandatory. The authority to collect the information is the Organic Administration Act, 16 U.S.C. 551. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

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To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) and the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) govern the confidentiality to be provided for information received by the Forest Service.

SEW400307 Amendment 36
Appendix B - Stipulations

The Holder Shall:

1. To limit impacts to recreation users:

- a. Ensure pole and guy line placement meet the minimum standards of clearance (8 ft height x 12 ft width) when crossing designated trails or when located in the near vicinity of designated trails.
- b. When working near trail corridors, ensure the safety of trail users by providing trail guards in both directions, stationed at a minimum of 200 feet away from construction activities, alerting the public of safety concerns.
- c. Be responsible for repairing any damage to designated Forest Service trails that may occur as a result of the permitted work. Holder shall report trail damage to the permit administrator, who will coordinate necessary rehabilitation plans.

2. To limit impacts to wildlife:

- a. Contact the USFWS prior to conducting any activities on USFS lands to ensure compliance with Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines. USFWS may be reached at 907-271-2888. Notify the permit administrator of requirements provided by USFWS prior to implementation.
- b. Avoid disturbance within 330 feet of waterfowl and swan nesting areas between March 15 and June 15. Known nesting areas exist in the project area between utility pole 11a and 18a; 23 and 24; 32a to 34a; and 47 to 53A; as identified on **SEW400307 Amendment 36 Appendix A**. Notify the permit administrator as soon as possible if nest sites are encountered.
- c. Avoid vegetation clearing, site preparation, or other vegetation removal activities during the breeding season of migratory birds from May 1 – July 15.
- d. Minimize disturbance within 330 feet of active osprey nesting sites during the nesting period (April 20 through July 15). If an osprey nest is found within 330 feet of the project area during project activities, the permit administrator shall be notified as soon as possible.
- e. Prevent disturbance within a 660-foot radius of goshawk nests during the active nesting season (March 1 through July 31). If a goshawk nest is found within 660 feet of the project area during project activities, the permit administrator shall be notified as soon as possible.
- f. Report to the permit administrator as soon as possible incidents where bears have obtained human or pet food, trash, other attractants, property was damaged, or a bear deterrent was used.

3. *Forestry-related stipulations:*

- a. Ensure field crews are aware that merchantable timber removed during vegetation clearing activities remains the property of the Forest Service. Merchantable timber is defined as any cut tree that is 6 inches in diameter at breast height (DBH) or larger and is at least 1/3 sound of spruce, birch or hemlock.
- b. Ensure merchantable timber is cut to a 5-inch top, limbed.
- c. Skid merchantable timber to an approved landing and decked no higher than 8 feet high. Holder shall coordinate with the Permit Administrator to determine appropriate decking locations as needed. Merchantable timber can be disposed of in the following manner:
 - a. Decked as described above for disposal by the US Forest Service.
 - b. Sold to the Holder accordance with 36 CFR Part 224. Holder will notify the Forest Service of any intent to purchase merchantable timber at least 60 days prior to the start of Operations.
- d. Ensure any residual trees damaged by vegetation clearing activities, or those that required 1/4th or more of their branches to be removed, are cut at the stump and treated in accordance with merchantable timber guidelines.
- e. Ensure woody vegetation is removed at the ground level, chipped/mulched, then scattered within the cleared area of the ROW.
- f. For spruce trees that are not chipped/mulched, spruce logs will be limbed full length and cut into twenty-four (24) inch maximum length sections and scattered, not piled, throughout the right of way and adjacent areas.
- g. For non-spruce trees that are not chipped/mulched, logs will be limbed full length and cut into ten (10) to fifteen (15) foot lengths and placed within the right-of-way and adjacent areas in a way to avoid them rolling. Log sections shall be scattered in contact with the ground and not piled.
- h. Cut stumps off as close to the groundline as possible, no higher than 6 inches above the ground on the uphill side when in view of a road and no higher than 12 inches above the ground on the uphill side in all other locations.
- i. Ensure slash (limbs and tops less than 4" in diameter) are piled in areas of low visual significance within the right-of-way where mechanical destruction is not feasible. The maximum height of any slash pile shall not exceed eighteen (18) inches.
- j. Ensure piled slash is pulled away from residual trees, utilities poles, wetlands and at least 100ft from streams and watercourses.

4. *To limit ecological impacts:*

- a. Ensure All heavy equipment used in the project area inspected by a qualified Forest Service employee prior to entry onto Forest Service lands. Holder shall Contact Forest Service Ecologist Peter Frank, at peter.frank@usda.gov or 907-280-9020, at least two weeks prior to mobilizing equipment to schedule inspections. All tools and equipment

used for this project shall be cleaned and free of all soil, plant material, insects, or animals prior to entering Forest Service lands.

- b. Avoid heavy equipment operations upon perennially wet soil types, as evidenced by hydrophytic vegetation types, unless the ground is hard frozen and covered with sufficient ice or snow. Operate equipment when conditions would minimize soil compaction, rutting, displacement, and erosion. Avoid creating ruts greater than 6 inches deep.
 - c. Ensure all mineral materials, topsoil and straw or hay erosion control products used shall be certified as weed free under the State of Alaska's Division of Agriculture weed free certification program.
5. *To limit impacts to cultural resources:*
- a. Avoid, protect, and leave in place any known or newly discovered Heritage Sites. If any historic or prehistoric objects or sites are encountered, stop work immediately and notify the permit administrator.
 - b. Be aware, any potential adverse effects from the proposed undertaking will have to be mitigated in the federally mandated manner before any actions are taken under this permit that have the potential to adversely impact extant historic properties (as defined in 36CFR800).
 - c. Notify the Permit administrator, via email, within 48 hours of mobilization and demobilization from Forest Service lands.
6. *To limit impacts to Forest Service infrastructure:*
- a. Ensure the new alignments of the Portage to Whittier Shore Power utility line rebuild do not conflict with any existing USFS infrastructure. If a conflict is discovered with existing infrastructure, the Holders infrastructure shall be relocated at holder's expense.
7. *To limit impacts to aquatic resources:*
- a. Ensure work occurring in or around wetlands shall take place during winter conditions, to minimize potential resource damage. Utilize the USFS National Wetland Inventory mapper tool to determine which work will occur in or across wetlands. Existing poles 1-3, R1-R4, 5A-6A, 8-9A, 11, 14-17A, 24-25, 32-32A, 35-48 are all in wetlands according to the NWI mapper.
 - b. Ensure spruce trees that may require removal along the banks of area ponds are placed, whole, in the affected pond with the butt ends resting near the shore.
 - c. Develop an erosion control and sediment plan and submit to the Permit Administrator for review, a minimum of 60 days prior to mobilization. The plan shall cover practices in disturbed areas, including stockpiling, fueling, and identify appropriate staging areas for use during construction.
 - d. Ensure soil is not piled or stored within 130' of stream banks.