PROPOSAL 25

5 AAC 92.510(a)(6)(A) Areas closed to hunting.

Clarify the northern and southern boundaries of the Sitka Road System Closed Area in Unit 4 as follows:

What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

- 5 AAC 92.510. Areas closed to hunting. (a) The following areas are closed to hunting as specified:
 - (6) Unit 4:
- (A) in the Sitka area, a strip one-fourth mile wide on each side of all state highways between the east side of the Sawmill Creek bridge and the Katlian Bay Road gate is closed to the taking of big game.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

There has been some ambiguity regarding the exact boundaries of the Sitka Road System Closed Area. In 2024, a portion of the Katlian Bay Road was opened to the public. The Katlian Bay Road extends the northern end of the Sitka road system past Halibut Point Road. It is not the intent of the department to extend the closed area to include the new Katlian Bay Road. On the south end of the road system (Sawmill Creek Road), the state highway actually extends to Herring Cove, approximately 1.5 miles past the closed area depicted on maps produced by the department. Popular mapping apps depict Herring Cove as the southern boundary of the closed area. The department is taking advantage of the current board cycle to clarify the boundaries match the intent of safety concerns associated with the Sitka Road System Closed Area. This proposed definition does not change the closed area, it clarifies the northern and southern boundaries of the existing closed area.

