

Division of Commercial Fisheries
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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 6, 2021

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Kotzebue Commercial Fishery Advisory Announcement #7

KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENS FOR 3 DAYS BEGINNING MONDAY

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 8 hours daily from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, August 9–11, in the Kotzebue Sound District.

If this year's run continues to track like previous years, then next week's catches should be highest catches of the season. This past week the chum salmon commercial catch was half of last year's catch for the same week, but the catch per unit of effort (CPUE) was like last year because only half of the number of permit holders fished compared to last year.

The test fish crew at Kiana was not able to catch any fish this week and department believes the extremely high water on the Kobuk River is allowing the fish to swim under the net. Historically this week is usually the peak week of catches at the test net site.

The department will determine future fishing time depending on commercial chum salmon catches next week.

If you have any questions concerning the fishery, please call the Kotzebue office at 442-3420, or the Commercial Fisheries office in Nome at 1-800-560-2271.

COVID-19

Under Alaska's Health Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, commercial fishing is considered essential and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/>