

Division of Commercial Fisheries
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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 20, 2021

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Kotzebue Commercial Fishery Advisory Announcement #9

KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENS FOR 5 DAYS NEXT WEEK

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 8 hours daily from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, August 22–24, and again for 8 hours daily from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Thursday, August 26 and Friday, August 27, in the Kotzebue Sound District.

Chum salmon catch rates continue to be low like the 2020 fishing season. This past week the total harvest during the three eight-hour openings was 16,412 chum salmon compared to last year's harvest during same weekly three eight-hour openings of 19,429 chum salmon. However, the catch per unit of effort (CPUE) was slightly better this year because there was an average of 30 permit holders fishing last week and there was an average of 42 permit holders fishing the same week last year.

The last day the buyers plan to purchase salmon is August 27. Therefore, like last year the department will allow 5 fishing periods for the upcoming week and the last day of commercial salmon fishing will be August 27.

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/>