

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Forrest Bowers, Acting Director

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Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: July 8, 2026

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Kotzebue Fishery Advisory Announcement #2

KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING TO OPEN
Emergency Order: 3-S-X-01-26

Commercial Salmon Fishing:

Commercial fishing will open in the Kotzebue District for 8 hours from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 10.

Regulations were passed by the Alaska Board of Fish at their November 2025 meeting that permanently established a closed waters section for Subdistrict 1 of the Kotzebue District for both subsistence and commercial fishing. This area consists of marine waters adjacent to the end of the runway from the Weather Service Dome, south of the main runway, to the NANA building north of the main runway and extending one mile offshore into Kotzebue Sound perpendicular to the beach. This closed area is necessary to avoid birds being attracted to fishing nets near the end of the airport runway and becoming a safety hazard to airplanes transiting the area.

The 2026 Kotzebue commercial harvest forecast is 50,000 to 150,000 chum salmon.

Permit holders are reminded to check with their buyers before starting fishing operations to ensure they have a market for their catch.

If you have any questions concerning the fishery you can call the Kotzebue office at 907-442-3420, or the Commercial Fisheries office in Nome at 1-800-560-2271.

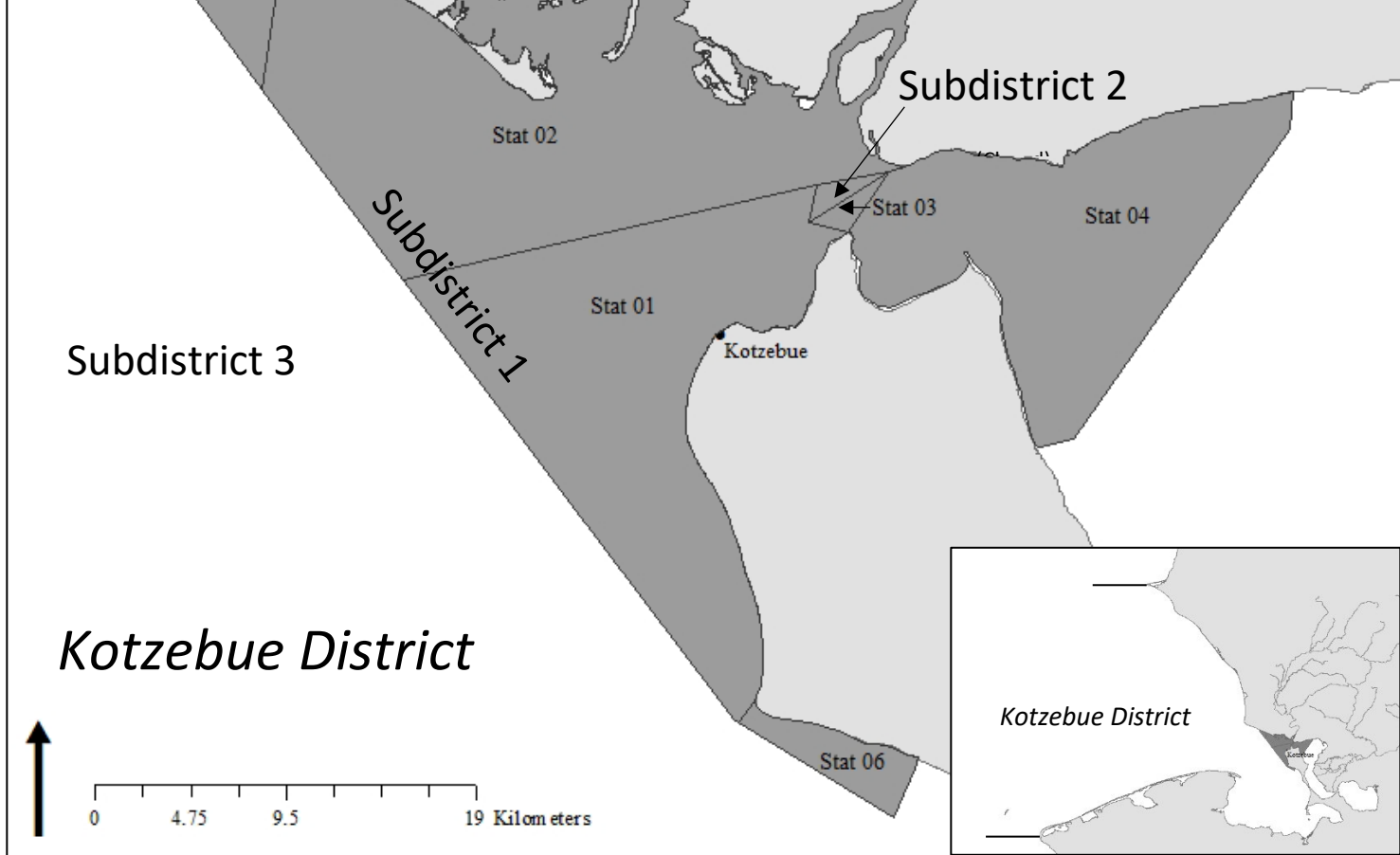


Figure 1.—Kotzebue Sound commercial salmon fishing subdistricts and statistical areas.