

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner  
Jeff Regnart, Director*



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Contact:  
Jim Menard, Area Management Biologist  
Hilary Upicksoun, Salmon Catch Monitor  
Phone: (907) 443-5167 or 1-800-560-2271  
Fax: (907) 443-5893

Nome Area Office  
P.O. Box 1148  
Nome, Alaska 99762  
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**2013 Kotzebue News Release # 1  
KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENING**

Great Pacific Seafoods has notified the department of their intention to begin buying salmon for the 2013 Kotzebue Sound commercial salmon fishery.

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 8 hours from 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 10 until 4 a.m. Thursday, July 11 in the Kotzebue District.

The department expects a good run of chum salmon in 2013 and the commercial harvest forecast is 225,000 to 250,000 chum salmon.

This year Great Pacific is requiring fishermen to bleed their catch. Also, they have asked fishermen to make several deliveries during an opening rather than holding fish throughout the fishing period. This will lead to less crushing of the fish on the bottom of the boat and therefore to a higher quality of marketable salmon. Fishermen are reminded that a buyer does not have to purchase their catch and if the buyer refuses a fishermen's catch the fishermen is required to make use of the salmon for subsistence purposes. Fishermen will be cited for waste of salmon if any salmon are dumped.

Permit holders must have a valid 2013 Kotzebue commercial salmon fishing permit, a valid government-issued picture identification and your boat must be registered with DMV. All other crewmembers must have a 2013 commercial crewmember license, or a 2013 State of Alaska commercial fishing permit for any fishery can substitute for the commercial crewmember license.

If you have any questions concerning the fishery you can call the Kotzebue office at 442-3420, or the Commercial Fisheries office in Nome at 1-800-560-2271 or the buyer at 442-4192.

Thanks to Great Pacific Seafoods for purchasing salmon this year!