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

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2014 Kotzebue Sound Salmon News Release # 14
KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENING

The next commercial salmon fishing period in the Kotzebue District will be for 4 hours from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. on Sunday.

Last night's catch was over 15,000 chum salmon by 34 permit holders. About half the number of fishermen than usual participated in last night's fishery because of windy weather creating high surf conditions. Total harvest to date is over 431,000 chum salmon and is fifth greatest in the 53-year history of the commercial fishery.

Chum salmon catches at the department test fish project in Kiana have been record setting this year and after a week of the greatest catches ever the catch rate has finally started to drop off. The department will pull the project next week as the Kobuk River chum salmon run begins to taper off.

The Noatak River chum salmon run has been building and Noatak subsistence fishermen report very good catches of chum salmon.

Next week commercial catches should start to decrease as we move into the last three weeks of the season.

Good Luck and Good Fishing!