

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



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P.O. Box 1148
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**2016 Kotzebue News Release # 1
KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING UPDATE**

Copper River Seafoods is now registered to buy salmon in the Kotzebue Sound District.

The department expects a similar run of chum salmon as last year and the 2016 commercial harvest forecast is 300,000 to 500,000 chum salmon depending on sufficient plane capacity to haul fish out of Kotzebue.

The department will open the commercial salmon fishery when the buyer is ready to purchase salmon beginning any time after July 9. The buyer plans to have openings beginning mid-morning sometime during the week of July 10 and will let the department know how many hours for fishing based on capacity issues.

Permit holders must have a valid 2016 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 2016 commercial crewmember license, or a 2016 State of Alaska commercial fishing permit for any fishery can substitute for the commercial crewmember license.

The 2016 Kotzebue Sound Salmon Fisheries Management Plan can be viewed online at:
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/RIR.3A.2016.05.pdf>

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.