

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



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**2016 Kotzebue News Release # 11**

**KOTZEBUE SALMON FISHING SCHEDULE THROUGH FIRST WEEK OF AUGUST**

At the request of the buyer, commercial salmon fishing will be open for 8 hours daily from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. beginning Sunday, July 31 through Friday, August 5 in the Kotzebue District.

Although the schedule is for 8-hour daily fishing periods the buyer may need to reduce fishing time or suspend buying for a day if there is a large catch.

After three weeks of commercial fishing this year's catch of 125,000 chum salmon is similar to last year. However, last year during the second week of fishing the buyer limited permit holders to 3,000 pounds daily, and beginning the third week of fishing permit holders were limited to 1,500 pounds daily for the rest of the season. So far this year the buyer has not had catch limits.

The commercial fishing effort for the first three weeks of fishing is down by one-third compared to last year with average of 34 permit holders fishing daily this year compared to 51 permit holders fishing daily last year.

The Kobuk River test net crew at Kiana continues to report good catches of chum salmon. The chum salmon catch index ranks ninth highest in 24 years of fishing. The catch index projection indicates the chum salmon run will be adequate to provide for subsistence needs and escapement.

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.