

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



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**2018 Kotzebue News Release #7
UPCOMING KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON OPENINGS**

Through Saturday there have been 330,000 chum salmon caught by 90 permit holders. The harvest is 41% higher than last year for the first 22 fishing periods.

Beginning Sunday, August 5, the Kotzebue Sound District will be open to commercial salmon fishing for 14 hours daily from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. through Friday, August 10. Fishermen are reminded to keep in close contact with the buyers in case they need to reduce the hours they can buy because of capacity concerns.

Last year was the sixth highest chum salmon harvest in the Kotzebue fishery with 463,000 chum salmon caught and the department has forecast a Top 10 harvest again this season. Total chum salmon harvest to date this year currently ranks twelfth highest in the Kotzebue fishery and total chum salmon harvest this year will likely enter the Top 10 this coming week.

The Kobuk River test fish crew chum catches continue to be well ahead of last year's catches.

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.

Good Luck and Good Fishing!