

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Forrest Bowers, Acting Director

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Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: July 29, 2025

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Kotzebue Fishery Advisory Announcement #7

KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING TO OPEN

Commercial Salmon Fishing:

Commercial fishing will open in the Kotzebue District as follows:

- will open for 12 hours from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Friday, August 1.

Closed Waters By Emergency Order:

In Subdistrict 1 of the Kotzebue District, marine waters adjacent to the end of the runway from the Weather Service Dome south of the main runway to the NANA building north of the main runway and extending one mile offshore into Kotzebue Sound perpendicular to the beach will be closed to subsistence and commercial fishing in order to avoid birds being attracted to fishing nets near the end of the airport runway and becoming a safety hazard.

Two buyers are registered to purchase salmon in Kotzebue this season.

Catch rates for the first two weeks of the fishery were below average but catch rates have indicated limited improvement during the last two commercial periods. The department will monitor fishery performance to determine additional commercial fishing opportunities. The 2025 Kotzebue commercial harvest forecast is 50,000 to 150,000 chum salmon.

Permit holders are reminded to check with their buyers before starting fishing operations to ensure they have a market for their catch.

If you have any questions concerning the fishery you can call the Kotzebue office at 907-442-3420, or the Commercial Fisheries office in Nome at 1-800-560-2271.

Stay safe and good luck.