

Division of Commercial Fisheries
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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: July 11, 2020

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**Kotzebue Area Manager & Asst. Area Manager
(907) 442-3420 (800) 560-2271**

Kotzebue Commercial Fishery Announcement #2

KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING TO REOPEN

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 10 hours daily from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. from Sunday, July 12 through Friday, July 17 in the Kotzebue District.

Three buyers are registered to buy salmon in the Kotzebue Sound District and two of three buyers are buying at this time.

Permit holders are reminded to keep in close contact with the buyers in case there are any changes to their buying hours.

The catch and fishing effort for the first period was below average with 443 chums caught by 9 permit holders.

The 2020 Kotzebue commercial harvest forecast is 450,000 to 650,000 chum salmon, but throughout western Alaska chum salmon harvests have been much lower than forecast this season.

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!

COVID-19

Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 17, and 18, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: <https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/>