

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Sam Rabung, Director

Kotzebue Office
PO Box 780
Kotzebue, AK 99752



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
www.adfg.alaska.gov

Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: July 9, 2024

CONTACT: Kevin Clark or Luke Henslee
Kotzebue Area Manager and Assistant Manager
(907) 442-3420 (800) 560-2271

Kotzebue Fishery Advisory Announcement #3

KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING TO OPEN

Commercial Salmon Fishing:

Commercial fishing will open in the Kotzebue District as follows:

- will open for 8 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 10,
- will open for 8 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Thursday, July 11,
- will open for 8 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Friday, July 12,

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.

Board Of Fish Regulatory Changes From January 14-18, 2023, Meeting:

Proposal 76 – Requires permit holders in the commercial set net fishery in the Kotzebue District to be physically present for the initial deployment of gear at the beginning of the commercial fishing period, at the end of the commercial fishing period to terminate operation of the gear, and when delivering fish to a buyer. During the fishing period permit holders are allowed to leave the gear fishing but must remain in the district or place of residence in Kotzebue. **Proposal passed; 7-0.**

Two buyers expressed their intent to purchase salmon in Kotzebue this season.

The 2024 Kotzebue commercial harvest forecast is 200,000 to 300,000 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.

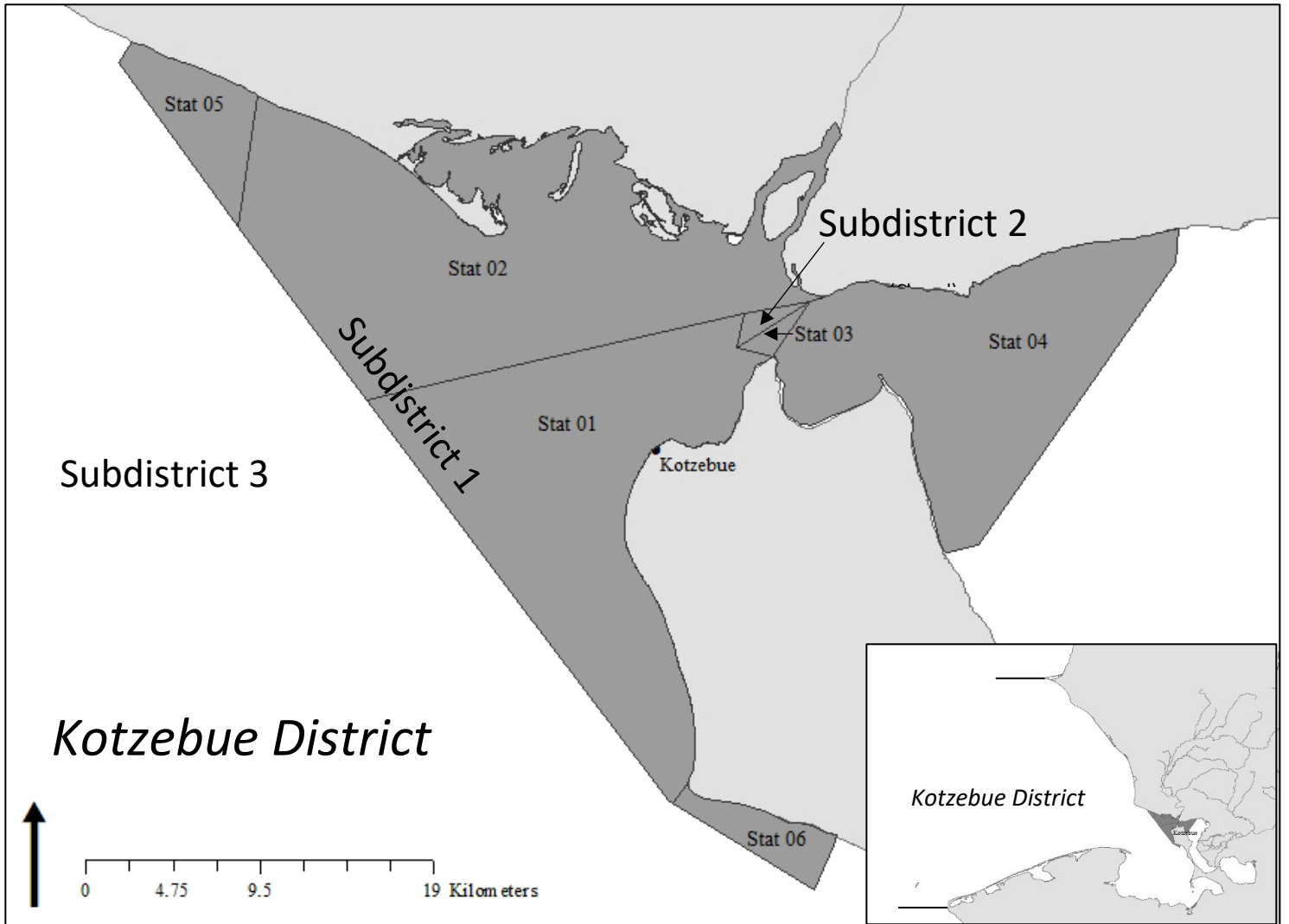


Figure 1.—Kotzebue Sound commercial salmon fishing subdistricts and statistical areas.