

Division of Commercial Fisheries
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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 3, 2022

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Kotzebue Commercial Fishery Advisory Announcement #6

KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING TO OPEN THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 8 hours from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Thursday, August 4 and Friday, August 5 in the Kotzebue Sound District.

Yesterday's catch of nearly 30,000 chum salmon by 39 permit holders during the 10-hour fishing period was the highest daily catch since 2018.

The first two weeks of August usually have the highest catches of the season and this year's run has been stronger than expected. The department forecast was for a harvest of 100,000 to 200,000 chum salmon. Through August 3, the commercial harvest is just over 128,000 chum salmon with a projected harvest of well over 200,000 fish.

Permit holders are reminded to check with the buyers before fishing to make sure there is a market for their catch. One buyer has closed for the season, leaving two buyers remaining, and one of the remaining buyers had to put their fleet on catch limits today.

Because of capacity concerns, commercial fishing periods will be 8 hours on Thursday and Friday.

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

Good Luck and Good Fishing!