

# *BLM News*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
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## **PINYON PINE NUT PICKING SEASON IS HERE**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Elko Field Office reports a fair crop of pinyon pine nuts this year. The nuts began ripening close to the normal time of year and the cones began popping about September 12<sup>th</sup>.

Families can gather up to 25 pounds of nuts without a permit, however, if people intend to harvest pine nuts for resale or in excess of 25 pounds, a permit will be required. The standard rate for pine nut permits is 25 cents per pound.

Standard equipment for harvesting the cones includes gloves, heavy duty foot gear, old clothes, a light ladder, and a sack. If people intend to knock the nuts from ripe cones, a tarp placed under the tree is very helpful. To remove pitch from skin a small amount of butter or margarine will do the trick. BLM asks everyone to take extra care when harvesting pine nuts to protect the trees from damage.

Small, isolated crops of pine nuts can be found in Elko County on Spruce and Dolly Varden Mountains, Sugar Loaf Peak, North Toano Range, and the Cherry Creek Range.

For more specifics on pine nut collecting, a pamphlet called "Nuts To Pines" is available at BLM offices and gives information on locating and harvesting pine nuts in Nevada. For additional information on pine nut harvesting, directions to the isolated crops, or to obtain a pine nut permit, contact Skip Ritter, district forester, at the Elko BLM Field Office, 3900 Idaho Street, Elko, Nevada 89801, or call 775-753-0200.

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