

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 generally poor crop of pinyon pine nuts this year in Elko County. However, there should be pine nuts in the south end of the Sulphur Spring Range. The nuts began ripening close to the normal time of year and the cones began popping in mid-September.

Central Nevada is where the bulk of the pine nuts will be found in Nevada this year. Areas to look include Austin Summit, Carol Summit, Railroad Pass, New Pass Summit, and Roberts Mountain.

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.

For more specifics on pine nut collecting, directions to the isolated crops, or to obtain a pine nut permit, contact Tyson Gripp, at the Elko BLM Field Office, 3900 Idaho Street, Elko, Nevada 89801, or call 775-753-0200.

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