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Pinenut picking

ALL ABOUT PINENUTS -THEY ARE GOOD FOR YOU!

NCAI Institute for Environmental Sovereignty

Without the Chevron Deference, what comes next for public lands?

Union of Concerned Scientists highlight Citibank

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Report: Some Federal Telecom Programs Failing Tribal Nations

Invest in Tribal Sovereignty

ICYMI: Looting Tribal Land

Lesley Williams to Tyler Summerfield.



Take your kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews Pinenut picking. Tell them what it is all about...why we pick, how we give thanks, show them how to cook them, and how much work is involved. Harvesting brings families and friends together...it's where you hear the stories/ legends, etc. It is our tradition...we had to travel far this year for a taste. I'd like to come out again. Pinenut picking.

Heidi Barlese (2018)

[Elveda Martinez](#)

ALL ABOUT PINENUTS -THEY ARE GOOD FOR YOU!

For thousands of years, since pre-historic times, the pinenut has been a food source for the Numu.

The pinenuts grow on the female cone on the pinion tree.

The flowers of the pinenut tree develop into cones which can take up to 3 years to mature after pollination. Once mature and dry, the cone naturally splits open and releases the seed/edible kernel.

PINENUT HEALTH BENEFITS:

Pinenuts are an excellent source of plant-based nutrients, minerals, vitamins, phytonutrients and antioxidants.

1. Pinenuts are calorie rich: 673 calories per 100 grams (about $\frac{3}{4}$ cup).
2. Pinenuts are primarily made of fats (68%), then protein (13,7%), then carbohydrates (13%) making them a good choice for people who follow a low-carb/keto-style of eating.
3. Rich in healthy fats: especially mono-unsaturated fats which help to lower bad cholesterol (LDL) and raise good cholesterol (HDL); a diet rich in mono-unsaturated fats may help prevent heart disease and strokes by improving the cholesterol profile.
4. Pinenuts contain the essential fatty acid Pinolenic acid; research has shown weight loss benefits associated with pinolenic acid as it helps to curb appetite. Pinolenic acid triggers the release of hunger-suppressant enzymes in the gut. Pinolenic acid is linked to LDL-lowering properties by enhancing the liver's ability to take up LDL and therefore less in free-floating in the bloodstream.
5. Pinenuts are an excellent source of Vitamin E with $\frac{3}{4}$ cup have more than 50% of the recommended daily allowance. Vitamin E is a fat-soluble antioxidant that helps fight potential cancer-causing free-radicals. Vitamin E is required for maintaining the cell membrane and protecting the skin.
6. Pinenuts are an excellent source of B-complex vitamins such as thiamin (B-1), riboflavin (B-2), niacin (B-3), pantothenic acid (B-5), vitamin B-6 (pyridoxine) and folate (B-9). B-vitamins work as co-factors (helpers) for enzymes in metabolism; each type of B vitamin works on different enzymes, making sure the enzymes get the power they need to metabolize food, build and repair cells and DNA, grow new healthy blood cells and more.
7. Pinenuts contain healthy amount of essential minerals; manganese, potassium, calcium, iron magnesium, zinc and selenium. They are especially high in manganese; pinenuts help the body develop resistance against infectious disease and they scavenge harmful free-radicals.
8. Pinenuts are gluten free, making them a popular ingredient for people with wheat food allergy or celiac disease.
9. Pinenut oil has a delicate flavor and sweet aroma and can be used for cooking. Pinenut oil is used in traditional medicinal remedies, as a carrier or base oil for aromatherapy. Pinenut oil is moisturizing, helps keep the skin protected from dryness.

Storage: Unshelled pinenuts have a long shelf-life and can be stored for many months.

The NCAI Institute for Environmental Sovereignty (IES) invites Tribal Nations to share their environmental priorities so that the organization can best advocate for policies and funding opportunities that advance the interests of Indian Country. As part of this effort, the IES team will host sharing circles during the [81st Annual Convention & Marketplace](#) in Las Vegas, NV, from **October 27 - November 1, 2024**.

These small group discussions, consisting of 6-8 participants per circle, will focus on addressing critical climate and ecosystem challenges related to air, water, soil, plant life, and wildlife. We will also explore the barriers Tribal Nations face in overcoming these challenges, including funding and capacity limitations, and work together to identify actionable solutions. The sharing circles will provide an opportunity for tribal representatives to engage in meaningful dialogue with their peers and exchange ideas on addressing these urgent environmental issues.

Each Tribal Nation is invited to nominate one representative or member of tribal staff to participate in these discussions. At this time, we are particularly seeking participation from Tribal Nations in **Alaska, Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming**.

To support this important work, selected participants will be covered for travel expenses, including convention registration. Lunch will be provided during the event, and an honorarium will be offered in recognition of their contributions.

If your Tribal Nation is interested in participating, please complete the form below by **Wednesday, September 25**. Should you have any questions, feel free to reach out to our team at environ-priorities@ncai.org. Please note that participants must be officially selected by their Tribal Nation to represent them in the sharing circle.

[Learn More](#)

[Application Form](#)

Through these collaborative discussions, we aim to produce evidence-based recommendations for the federal budget, strengthen advocacy for policy changes that advance the priorities of Indian Country, and guide the IES's projects and programs. By doing so, we hope to better inform federal policymakers and agencies and secure more targeted support from non-governmental organizations and philanthropic partners.

We greatly value your input and look forward to working together toward advancing the environmental sovereignty of Indian Country.

Without the Chevron Deference, what comes next for public lands?

The ruling “has probably influenced land regulations subtly but significantly — and probably in ways that we don’t even know about.”

By [Richard Bednarski](#) • [Civics](#), [Environment](#) • September 19, 2024

In a landmark decision, the Supreme Court in June voted to abolish the longstanding ruling known as the “Chevron deference.” This decision, in place for four decades, was instrumental in helping courts make challenging legal decisions with sound, science-based information and facts, often from the agencies involved. Without it, courts can make decisions based on politics over science, and already federal agencies are wondering what level of authority they have in interpreting and enforcing regulations.

For example, a federal judge in Mississippi has already ruled that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services [can’t enforce a rule](#) that would ban discriminating against patients on gender identity and sexual orientation. The [Guardian recently reported](#) that the Air Force is refusing to clean up water it polluted, “claiming federal regulators lack authority.”

The 6-3 decision by the Supreme Court could certainly affect the environment and public lands, but first, it’s important to understand exactly what the Chevron deference is all about.

What is the Chevron Deference?

In 1984, the United States Supreme Court [ruled](#) that courts should defer to a regulatory agency’s reasonable interpretation of an ambiguous statute. If the law is unclear on water, for example, courts would defer to the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) interpretation. In essence, it allowed judges to consider the expertise of the experts when ruling on a given case.

The case, *Chevron U.S.A. Inc. v. Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc.*, defined the division of authority between courts and agencies, in this case, the EPA. The ruling raised the point that even though judges make the final rulings, they often need the expertise or specialized knowledge to make the decision accurately.

The opinion marked “a significant shift in the justification for giving deference to agency interpretations of the law,” wrote Columbia Law School Professor Thomas W. Merrill in an [article](#) about how this seemingly minute court case became what he terms an accidental landmark.

Merrill said this decision established a two-step framework for reviewing agency interpretations. First, the agency must explain how the regulation is ambiguous. “If the intent of Congress is clear, that is the end of the matter; for the court, as well as the agency, must give effect to the unambiguously expressed intent of Congress.”

The second step lays a path forward for the courts if there is no clear congressional intent or if the case involves industry-specific knowledge and specialized language and processes. According to Merrill, “the two-step formula also implied that deference to the agency interpretation was all-or-nothing.”

This minor detail shows how this ruling became a landmark case and one used to bolster the effectiveness and authority of the EPA and other federal agencies.

The Chevron deference was a bedrock doctrine that underlined challenges or defenses of federal land management and environmental rules. It was not pro- or anti-environment. Instead, it infused land management agencies with the ability to adapt law and policy to specific on-the-ground circumstances, which are rapidly evolving due to climate change.

“Federal land management agencies rely on [the Chevron deference] because it gave them latitude to interpret laws and craft regulations based on their expertise,” wrote Jonathan Thompson, a writer covering land issues for nearly two decades. His latest project, [The Land Desk](#), is a newsletter focused squarely on the Western landscape.

Thompson wrote that this ruling provided agencies the confidence that regulations would stand up to legal challenges. The ruling “has probably influenced land regulations subtly but significantly — and probably in ways that we don’t even know about.”

Already, the lack of the Chevron deference is raising alarms. This ruling had become essential in managing Western lands due to the complexities and evolving science that govern the landscape, which is further complicated under climate change.

“It [was] an imperfect doctrine, but one that infuses the folks doing the hard work of managing the Western U.S.’s public lands, waters, and wildlife with a measure of needed ability to adapt law and policy to specific on-the-ground circumstances,” said Erik Schlenker-Goodrich, executive director of the [Western Environmental Law Center](#), a nonprofit public interest environmental law center. He has also been an attorney working on federal ecological litigation, policy, planning, and decision-making in the western U.S. for over two decades.

Without the deference in place, Schlenker-Goodrich said private interests can “achieve, through litigation, what they have been unable to achieve through the political system.”

More must reading at:

<https://sierranevadaally.org/2024/09/19/without-the-chevron-deference-what-comes-next-for-public-lands/>

[vgovee.com/2024/09/19/without-the-chevron-deference-what-comes-next-for-public-lands/](https://www.vgovee.com/2024/09/19/without-the-chevron-deference-what-comes-next-for-public-lands/)

STOP MONEY

In June, 750+ scientists wrote to the executives of Citibank highlighting the urgency of the climate crisis, calling on the bank to stop financing fossil fuel expansion, respect human rights and Indigenous sovereignty, and invest in a clean energy future. Citi ignored their demands to continue funding fossil fuels.

Since then, we have organized dozens of civil disobedience actions to pressure Citi to take the climate crisis seriously. Between June 10th and Sept 5th, there was a major protest at Citi’s global headquarters every 2.7 days. The NYPD has made 700 arrests.

[Next week, the Union of Concerned Scientists is hosting a \(virtual\) NY Climate Week Event to highlight the role of Citibank in the climate crisis—and the role that activists like you can play in ending the era of fossil fuels.](#)

This special event is on **Wednesday, September 25th at 1pm ET / 10am PT. Can you join us?** Speakers include:

- **Roishetta Sibley Ozane**, Founder and CEO, The Vessel Project of Louisiana
- **Jenny Xie**, Stop the Money Pipeline, Organizing Manager
- **Rose Z. Abramoff**, PhD, Wintergreen Earth Science; Board President, Climate Emergency Fund
- **Sandra Steingraber**, PhD, Senior Scientist, Science and Environmental Health Network; Co-founder, Concerned Health Professionals of New York

This event will be led and convened by the Union of Concerned Scientists, one of the largest science-based advocacy groups in the country. You will leave the call with clear action items and next steps to help keep the pressure up on Citi.

[We hope that Citibank will listen to what the science—and justice—demand and stop funding fossil fuels.](#)

In Solidarity, - the Stop the Money Pipeline team

8newsnow.com

[Fiery semi-truck crash involving lithium batteries closes US 95 northwest of Las Vegas](#)
[Two semi-trucks collided on U.S. 95 near Indian Springs, resulting in a fiery crash and a complete closure of the highway from Indian Springs to State Route 160.](#)

[Report: Some Federal Telecom Programs Failing Tribal Nations](#) [Kristi Eaton, The Daily Yonder](#)

The report from the Institute for Local Self-Reliance says tribal nations are not always consulted about proposed projects on their lands.



ICYMI: Looting Tribal Land

Individuals and corporations trespass on Native property and plunder resources, with little accountability

By [Stephanie Woodard Barn Raiser Media](#) • [Climate](#), [Culture](#), [Environment](#), [Essays](#), [Tribes](#) • April 26, 2024



Chairman Joseph Holley of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians, a consortium of four Bands in Nevada, including one at Battle Mountain. (Joseph Zummo)

This story was originally published by [Barn Raiser](#), your independent source for rural and small town news.

One early morning this March, elders of the Battle Mountain Band of Western Shoshone Indians were taking their daily walk around the Band’s reservation in Battle Mountain, Nevada. They were startled to come upon a bulldozer digging a trench. When they returned to the village, they went to the tribal office to ask what the work was for. Since no one had negotiated with the Band to purchase a right-of-way—legal authorization to use property for a particular purpose and time period—Band member Joseph Holley drove out to see what was up.

Holley, who is also chairman of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians, a consortium of four Bands that includes the one at Battle Mountain, arrived at the work site. He says he waved down the contractor bulldozing the trench.

The contractor stopped the machine, exited it, swore at Holley, made much use of the “f” word, repeatedly gave Holley “two seconds” to leave and compared him to “Mexicans at the border” stopping an honest man from doing his work. At a meeting a few days later between local AT&T representatives and the Battle Mountain Band leadership, Holley recounted the interaction.



Joseph Holley, chairman of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians, leaned out of the window of his truck to snap this photo of an AT&T contractor’s bulldozer digging on the reservation. (Joseph Holley)

“I would hope that anyone acting on behalf of AT&T would conduct themselves with nothing but respect and kindness, and all I can do is offer a sincere apology,” said the company’s Nevada area manager Torrey Denoo.

“He will not be allowed on Band land again,” Holley responded. “Period. End of story.”

Cliff Cooper, AT&T’s local right-of-way manager, added his apologies for “not having done the proper research,” which led to the trespass and unsanctioned digging. The work was intended to be part of a project to provide fiber optic service to Consolidated Edison’s nearby solar plant.

The Band’s attorney, Rollie Wilson of Patterson Earnhart Real Bird & Wilson, appearing via a video-conference link, asked whether the local office’s faulty research had also precluded the corporation from complying with a federal law requiring evaluation of the tract for protection of cultural resources, such as an ancient village site or burial ground, before beginning work. This question was not resolved during the meeting.

A Battle Mountain Band official asked if additional bulldozing of tribal property was expected. “No,” Holley responded. “If they go out there now, it’s trespass, and that’s a criminal offense.” Denoo confirmed that AT&T would pause work until the corporation reached an agreement with the Band.

When *Barn Raiser* asked AT&T corporate communications for a comment, a spokesperson responded that the bulldozer driver’s rant was “unacceptable” and that the corporation requires its contractors “to obtain proper permitting, follow applicable construction codes, and abide by rules governing rights-of-way and property easements.” AT&T has contacted the Battle Mountain Band’s leadership, according to the spokesperson, and is “working toward a resolution.”

Bringing truth to light

Trespass on Native land is a massive, largely unrecognized burden on Native tribes and individuals nationwide, according to Terry Beckwith, a director of [Indian Landowners Party](#). The 6,700-member Vancouver, Washington, think tank does research and advocacy primarily focused on the problems of individual Native landowners, as opposed to those of tribes. Its training center offers courses in managing and leasing property, including setting up rights-of-way.

“Talk to any Indian on any reservation, and they’ll know someone who has a trespass problem on their property, or they have the problem,” says Beckwith, a citizen of the Quinault Indian Nation, in Taholah, Washington. Even worse, he says, many individual Native landowners don’t fully understand their rights and can’t afford a lawyer.



Terry Beckwith, far left, and Lela Beckwith, left at top, with class members at Indian Landowners Party's training facility in Vancouver, Washington. (Karrie Morones Martin)

The many types of trespass may involve agricultural and ranching activities, timber cutting, mining, oil and gas extraction, communication lines and pipelines. Other inroads include dumping of toxic materials and garbage, construction of non-Native homes, barns and other structures on Native property, and more.

Oglala attorney Brett Lee Shelton of the Native American Rights Fund, a nonprofit law firm, has called today's leasing and right-of-way procedures "a huge drain on Indian economies and essentially a taking of resources that hadn't yet been taken in the treaty-making process. If you wanted to design a system to keep Indian landowners poor, you would use exactly this sort of trick."

The total value of decades of unpaid fees, fines, damages and lost productivity is unknown but likely immense, says Beckwith. He recalls that trespass by just a portion of a North Dakota pipeline was valued at one point at \$187 million. The constant paperwork, phone calls and anxiety associated with this adds to the burden. Beckwith is working with the Indian Landowners Party on a reservation-by-reservation inventory of trespass violations on Native lands, with the goal of prompting an in-depth federal inquiry and/or scholarly study of the issue.

Native-owned lands and resources are still being taken away for a simple reason, wrote the late Jay Daniels in a [2016 op-ed for indianz.com](https://www.indianz.com), a Native news site. According to Daniels, it's because those Native properties and resources have value that someone else wants. Daniels was a Cherokee citizen and a realty officer for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the Interior Department agency that works with Native individuals and tribes.

When Beckwith received money to reimburse him for "timber trespass," it comprised a penalty the BIA had imposed on someone who had surreptitiously harvested wood on Beckwith's property. Surprised by this windfall, Beckwith congratulated local BIA employees on catching the thief. They responded that few trespassers of any kind are apprehended, he recalls. An agency staffer would have to happen by in what may be a remote area, catch the perpetrator in the act, ask to see their permit and, if they don't have one, initiate a legal process. Beckwith was simply lucky.

The BIA press office agrees that seeing trespass in action is one way the agency learns of it, as are reports by community members and social media posts. However, it appears anecdotally that when Native landowners do report trespass to the BIA, some may not get even an acknowledgement of their communication, much less an investigation.

“In too many instances, the BIA does not investigate,” wrote Daniels in his op-ed. What’s more, those incidents that are dealt with may not be resolved promptly. “There have been trespass cases which have gone on for years, if not decades,” according to Daniels.

Potential trespassers seem to be aware of the BIA’s lax—some say underfunded—oversight of Native-owned land. According to Beckwith, they apparently say to themselves, “Why not take a chance? If we get caught, we’ll have to pay, but what about all the ones where we don’t get caught?”

Plundering the planet *(pics would not transfer)*

Many trespasses interfere with Native individuals’ and tribes’ productive use of their land. Others have national—indeed planetary—implications.

A sagging 70-year-old oil and natural gas pipeline crosses the Great Lakes as well as the reservation of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, in Ashland County, Wisconsin. Called [Line 5](#), it is part of the Enbridge pipeline system that burst in 2010, spewing nearly a million gallons of oil into Michigan’s Kalamazoo River—the biggest inland spill in U.S. history. The disaster took 10 years to clean up and resulted in a [\\$177 million settlement](#) with the Department of Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency.

A diver points to the snapped circular supports of crumbling Line 5, a 70-year-old Canadian oil and natural gas pipeline crossing the Great Lakes and the Bad River Band’s reservation. (National Wildlife Federation)

Bags of grout (a hardened cement mixture) prop up lengths of Line 5 as it traverses the Great Lakes. Straps that once wrapped it have snapped apart and protrude at intervals. It has been dented by the anchor of a passing tugboat. Were Line 5 to rupture, it would cause catastrophic damage—destroying the Band’s Lake Superior coastline, land and lifeways and fouling the Great Lakes, which hold 20% of Earth’s freshwater supply.

Bags of grout (a hardened cement mixture) prop up a sagging Line 5.

Line 5’s right-of-way across the Bad River Band’s land expired in 2013. The Band asked the pipeline’s owner, Enbridge Energy Company, Inc., to close it down and remove the pipe. When it did not, the 8,000-member Band sued Enbridge, a Canadian corporation with a net worth of more than \$72 billion. In 2023, a U.S. federal court held that Enbridge was willfully trespassing on Bad River Band property and must decommission and remove Line 5.

Enbridge appealed, citing a US–Canada treaty. The United States’ *amicus*, or friend-of-the-court, brief, filed by the Department of Justice, is a masterful word salad that supports both sides, opposes both sides and exhorts the court to figure it out.

“The filing leaves more questions than answers,” says Whitney Gravelle, president of Bay Mills Indian Community, in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, another tribe with Lake Superior coastline. “We fear it will take Line 5 failing again, and the disaster of an oil spill, for our position to be taken seriously. This isn’t just about tribes, it is about clean water, it is about life.

In a letter to President Biden in February, 30 tribal nations from around the region, including

Gravelle's, joined in calling the Bad River Band's David-and-Goliath struggle to save itself, the nation and the planet "an existential fight."

In March, Enbridge offered the Band \$80 million to "settle past disputes."

Bad River Band Chairman Robert Blanchard responded, "Our homeland, our treaty rights, and our way of life are not for sale."

Stephanie Woodard is an award-winning journalist who writes on human rights and culture with a focus on Native American issues. She is the author of American Apartheid: The Native American Struggle for Self-Determination and Inclusion.

[Barn Raiser](#) publishes independent news, analysis and information to support diverse, civically engaged and dynamically connected rural and small town communities. We champion the free exchange of public dialogue by bringing together underrepresented voices and perspectives on the intractable issues facing communities and policymakers. We seek to convene a space where big ideas and bold questions enliven proximate connections, where daring criticism, rational debate and compassionate care will renew the social imagination to build common ground, encourage democratic participation and inspire change.

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Annual Pinenut Festival Powwow

What a beautiful Ceremony we had for the 93rd Annual Pinenut Blessing. We always appreciate everyone coming out and celebrating at Pinenut Festival weekend.

As this ceremony was done in the mountains its always a great reminder how resilient our people were. We would be gone for weeks harvesting & praying for one another. We would dance from sundown to sun up with many singers/dancers to keep the circle strong. The pinenuts we receive was fuel to continue to keep dancing as sometime this ceremony would last all night!

Once again we appreciate everyone coming out and praying for our Pinenuts this year! We hope everyone has made it out with your families for a bountiful harvest. Everyone have safe travels back home!



**Lesley Williams is with Tyler Summerfield.**

I want you all to know that growing up with your family, cousins and friends is the best thing about rez life. I posted the picture of you all at Cruzs grad bbq because it was all love. As an old ass adult now I watched you all grow up from babies. I am proud of you all, just as I was proud of your parents, uncles and aunties before you. There was a time this was me and my family n friends. Cherish life please. Life can be hard and suck, troubles come and troubles go. Find your way and do what you love, and no it's not vapes n such. Have families and love your babies with all your heart. Support each other and do not hold grudges because life is too short. As an auntie, mother and grandmother those in my little universe mean the world to me. We buried a beautiful soul today. Know that you are all just as special and each one of you can make this world a better place. Be blessed and be good human beings. Skoden!

