Superior National Forest – Winter Cone Collection Season 2012

The Superior National Forest is accepting cones for purchase **beginning March 1, 2012 and ending April 13, 2012.** Species that will be purchased are jack pine at $60 per bushel and black spruce at $120 per bushel.

The Superior National Forest is in need of 100 bushels of black spruce cones and a minimum of 250 bushels of jack pine cones.

Reminders:

- **1 bushel minimum**
- **Maps of specific locations to collect cones will not be given out.**

CONE SPECIFICATIONS

JACK PINE

Jack pine cones may be brown or gray in color. Collect only closed cones by cutting or pulling them from branches. Jack pine cones may also be collected from squirrel caches or from recent logging slash. Store cones in a cool shady location to avoid having them open before delivery. Open cones will not be purchased. Cones with lichen or moss also will not be purchased.

Acceptable brown/gray closed cones:

Unacceptable open and lichen covered cones:

BLACK SPRUCE

Black spruce cones will be blue-black or purple in color. Cones can be collected by handpicking from standing or down trees or from squirrel caches. Cones are best collected from logging slash. Open cones will not be accepted and collections should be stored in cool shady location to avoid having cones open**.**

Acceptable closed cones:

Unacceptable open cones:

In general cones should be free of twigs, branches, needles, etc. Excessive amounts of twigs, branches and needles will require estimates of reduced volumes of cones and lead to reduced payment. Cone should not have insect bore holes. Cones should be stored in a cool, dry location and should be delivered as soon as possible to prevent the cones from opening or developing mold.

REMEMBER:

- **You will need to identify the location where you have collected the cones.**
- **Keep cones from separate locations in separate bags.**

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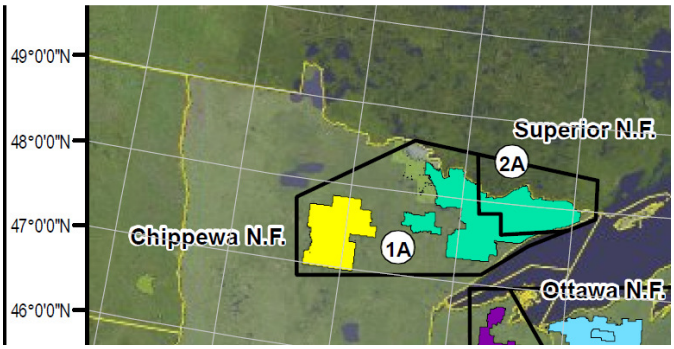
Where to Collect?

Collection should only occur within the seed zones 1A and 2A (see insert) which are inside Cook, Lake, St. Louis and Itasca counties.



Cone collection can occur on Superior National Forest lands outside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness without a permit.

Due to the Pagami Creek Fire, some portions of the Superior National Forest are closed to the public. Do not collect in the fire area as it is not safe. Check website for current closure map and information www.fs.usda.gov/superior.

On other Federal lands including Chippewa National Forest permits may be required. On all other lands including state, county and private lands make sure to ask for permission or check with the proper representatives to obtain permits for those lands. It is acceptable to collect on your own property as long you are not within city limits.

NOTE: Collecting cones by cutting down trees or pruning branching is illegal on the Superior National Forest.

Collectors may only earn up to $2500 a year. The year corresponds with our fiscal year (October 1-September 30). You need to be registered through Central Contracting Registration (CCR) in order to collect cones and to receive payment. In order to register in CCR you must first have a DUNS number which can be obtained at the following website; (http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform). Once you have received a DUNS number you may register on the CCR website; https://www.bpn.gov/ccr/default.aspx). Registration is good for up to 12 months. You must renew and revalidate your registration at least every 12 months from the date you previously registered. However, you are strongly urged to revalidate your registration more frequently to ensure that CCR is up to date and in sync with changes that may have been made to DUNS, banking and IRS information. If you do not renew your registration, it will expire.

BUYING LOCATIONS & CONTACTS

Contact the nearest office to make an appointment to drop off cones, or if you have any questions.

Location	Contact	Phone Number
Aurora, MN Laurentian Ranger District	Steve Lerol	(218) 229-8813
	Alex Schwartz	(218) 229-8832
	Ryan Siebold	(218) 229-8826
Cook, MN LaCroix Ranger District	Paul Valento	(218) 666-0036
	Craig Merriman	(218) 666-0040
Ely, MN Kawishiwi Ranger District	Tim Catton	(218) 365-7637
	David Hernandez	(218) 365-7624
	Chad Kirschbaum	(218) 365-7574
Grand Marais, MN Gunflint Ranger District	Jody Buffman	(218) 663-8088
Tofte, MN Tofte Ranger District	Jody Buffman	(218) 663-8088