

2018 WEST VIRGINIA BIG BUCK CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

The West Virginia Big Buck Certification Program was established in 1964 to recognize hunters who harvested extraordinarily large-antlered bucks. Although the official “contest” was discontinued in 2013, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) continues to officially score deer as part of this program.

The Boone and Crockett Club and Pope and Young Club scoring systems are used to officially score each deer, depending upon method of harvest. Guidelines for the program are as follows:

1. Effective in 2015, deer must have a DNR-issued game check confirmation number (13-digit).
2. To be eligible, the deer must be officially scored after a 60-day drying period by an Official Scorer whom is approved by Boone and Crockett and/or Pope and Young.
3. Any bow or crossbow-killed deer must score at least 125 Typical or 155 Non-Typical. Any gun or muzzleloader-killed deer must score at least 140 Typical or 165 Non-Typical.
4. A signed Fair Chase Affidavit must accompany the Official Score Sheet.
5. For state record entries, field photos of the freshly killed deer (antlers attached) must be submitted at the time of scoring.

In 2018-2019, more than 160 hunters had their deer officially measured by an Official Scorer at a WVDNR District Office, WVDNR field office, at the WV Hunting and Fishing Show in Charleston (sponsored by the West Virginia Trophy Hunter’s Association), or by an Official Scorer at a different location. There are 17 WVDNR Wildlife Biologists and Wildlife Managers throughout the state who are certified as Official Scorers by Boone and Crockett and/or Pope and Young. During the 2018 hunting season, **86** bucks (*See attached table) were harvested with a gun, muzzleloader, bow, or crossbow and met the respective minimum score requirement, as well as the other requirements listed above. An additional **19** bucks from previous years were officially scored and met requirements needed for a WV Big Buck Certificate.

It is noteworthy that a few deer met the respective minimum score requirement but proper game check information or other important data was not provided. A good practice is to record the DNR-issued game check confirmation number and keep it with the mount/skull plate so that it is not misplaced. A hunter may only have their deer scored by one Official Scorer. It is the hunter’s responsibility to work with their Official Scorer to ensure that all documentation is accurately completed and submitted to the WV Big Buck Certification Program Coordinator by March 15th following the year during which the buck was harvested.

Thank you to all hunters who participated in the WV Big Buck Certification Program this year!

WV Big Buck Certification Program 2018 Score Rankings

Antler Configuration: Non-Typical

Weapon: Gun

Name	County	Harvest Date	Ranking	Score
Glenn Pauley	Kanawha	11/20/2018	1	196 4/8

Antler Configuration: Typical

Weapon: Gun

Name	County	Harvest Date	Ranking	Score
Jeffrey Bragg	Fayette	12/01/2018	1	170 2/8
Manuel Davis Jr.	Fayette	11/19/2018	2	165 7/8
Garland Carver	Clay	11/19/2018	3	165 6/8
Frank Palfrey Jr.	Webster	11/19/2018	4	163 5/8
Paul Woods	Webster	11/23/2018	5	161 1/8
Nicholas Bradley	Kanawha	11/21/2018	6	157 3/8
Mark Bartrug	Pleasants	11/19/2018	7	154 0/8
Jody Alderman	Pocahontas	11/19/2018	8	149 1/8
Jerry Toney	Raleigh	11/19/2018	9	149 0/8
Barbara Barnard	Jackson	11/23/2018	10	148 4/8
Joseph Garland	Webster	11/22/2018	11	145 7/8
Rodney Anderson	Webster	11/19/2018	12	142 5/8
Phillip Jones	Monroe	11/26/2018	13	140 7/8

Antler Configuration: Non-Typical

Weapon: Bow

Name	County	Harvest Date	Ranking	Score
Donny Baisden	Logan	10/08/2018	1	182 5/8
Aaron Fry	Logan	10/08/2018	2	171 0/8

Antler Configuration: Typical**Weapon: Bow**

Name	County	Harvest Date	Ranking	Score
David Miller	Boone	09/29/2018	1	173 5/8
Josh Bias	Logan	11/25/2018	2	171 2/8
Bucky Sargent	Logan	11/12/2018	2	171 2/8
Scott Ellis	Logan	11/13/2018	4	163 0/8
Colton Ratcliff	Wyoming	11/21/2018	5	161 4/8
Jeff Holbert	Mingo	11/12/2018	6	160 2/8
Evan Hewitt	McDowell	11/10/2018	7	158 6/8
Ronald Lambert Jr.	Wyoming	11/22/2018	8	155 2/8
Herbert Dawson	McDowell	11/23/2018	9	155 1/8
David Mahan	Jackson	10/29/2018	10	153 0/8
Brad Justice	Logan	11/22/2018	11	151 1/8
David Triplett	Wyoming	11/16/2018	12	150 7/8
Jason Cook	Wyoming	11/17/2018	13	149 5/8
Boyd Adams	Logan	11/10/2018	14	149 3/8
Chase Adams	Logan	10/06/2018	15	147 6/8
Lee Goodman	Logan	11/14/2018	15	147 6/8
Shaun Minnix	Wyoming	11/12/2018	15	147 6/8
Creed Conley	Logan	10/27/2018	18	147 3/8
Brandon Roberts	Boone	11/17/2018	19	147 0/8
Justin Cotton	Fayette	10/04/2018	20	145 1/8
Jimmy Mitchell	Boone	11/05/2018	20	145 1/8
Todd Snider	Ritchie	10/07/2018	22	144 7/8
Ronald Payne	Wyoming	11/14/2018	23	144 1/8
Perry Bailey	Logan	11/06/2018	24	143 5/8
Joshua Fry	Logan	09/29/2018	25	143 1/8

Herbert Castle III	McDowell	12/07/2018	26	142 6/8
Bryan Sizemore	Mingo	10/22/2018	27	142 5/8
Stacy England	McDowell	11/20/2018	28	142 1/8
Scotty Chinsolo	McDowell	11/06/2018	29	141 5/8
Raymond Marshall	McDowell	11/04/2018	29	141 5/8
Tyler Wilson	Lincoln	11/25/2018	31	140 1/8
Michael Shaw	Upshur	10/31/2018	32	140 0/8
Kevin Blevins	McDowell	11/22/2018	33	139 6/8
Ryan Huffman	McDowell	11/18/2018	34	138 6/8
Donald Napier	McDowell	11/17/2018	35	136 3/8
Jordan Butcher	Logan	10/11/2018	36	136 1/8
Zachary Little	McDowell	10/24/2018	37	135 6/8
Brandon Vinson	Wyoming	10/12/2018	37	135 6/8
Caleb Smith	Logan	11/21/2018	39	135 4/8
Devin Estep	McDowell	11/10/2018	40	134 7/8
Casey Lester	McDowell	10/21/2018	41	134 6/8
Jacob Miller	Logan	11/15/2018	42	133 6/8
Tori Butcher	Logan	12/03/2018	43	133 5/8
Josh Canterbury	Cabell	10/20/2018	44	132 7/8
Willie Owens	McDowell	11/19/2018	45	132 3/8
Tyler Harper	Kanawha	10/12/2018	46	132 2/8
Zachary Bolling	McDowell	11/22/2018	47	131 7/8
Shawn Reed	Mingo	11/12/2018	47	131 7/8
Brian Griffith	Raleigh	10/25/2018	49	131 6/8
Rod Miller	Ohio	11/08/2018	50	131 0/8
Keith Minnix	McDowell	12/08/2018	51	130 7/8

Ryan Campbell	Nicholas	11/15/2018	52	129 6/8
Brian Lingenfelter	Cabell	10/19/2018	52	129 6/8
Mark Pettry	Wyoming	11/11/2018	54	128 7/8
Holden Eads	Putnam	11/11/2018	55	127 6/8
Steve Kennedy	Logan	11/12/2018	56	127 1/8
Mike Howington	McDowell	11/20/2018	57	126 6/8
Trace Butcher	Logan	11/14/2018	58	126 2/8
Joshua Delida	McDowell	11/10/2018	59	126 0/8
Christopher Watts	Lincoln	11/16/2018	59	126 0/8

Antler Configuration: Typical

Weapon: Crossbow

Name	County	Harvest Date	Ranking	Score
Russell Mitchem	Wyoming	11/06/2018	1	147 6/8
Michael Patrick	Fayette	09/29/2018	2	144 6/8
Doug Smith	Boone	12/09/2018	3	140 6/8
John Taylor	Kanawha	11/16/2018	4	138 5/8
Jayden Elkins	Boone	10/13/2018	5	138 0/8
Jeff Bella	Boone	11/12/2018	6	134 4/8
Beverly Hurley	Mingo	09/29/2018	7	131 6/8
Earl Reynolds	Boone	10/21/2018	8	130 5/8
Cole Wriston	Nicholas	11/17/2018	9	126 7/8
Daniel Dorsey	Fayette	10/05/2018	10	125 5/8

Antler Configuration: Non-Typical

Weapon: Crossbow

None in 2018

Antler Configuration: Typical

Weapon: Muzzleloader

None in 2018

Antler Configuration: Non-Typical

Weapon: Muzzleloader

None in 2018