

2019 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 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. For state record entries, field photos of the freshly killed deer (antlers attached) must be submitted at the time of scoring.

In 2019-2020, 128 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, or by an Official Scorer at a different location. There are 15 WVDNR Wildlife Biologists and Wildlife Managers throughout the state whom are certified as Official Scorers by Boone and Crockett Club and/or Pope and Young Club. During the 2019 hunting season, **62** bucks (*See attached table) were harvested with a gun, muzzleloader, bow, or crossbow and met the respective minimum score requirement and other requirements listed above. An additional 12 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, however 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 all documentation is accurately completed and submitted to the coordinator of the WV Big Buck Certification Program by the annual deadline.

Thank you to all whom participated in the WV Big Buck Certification Program this year.

WV Big Buck Certification Program 2019 Score Rankings

Antler Configuration: Typical

Weapon: Bow

Name	County	Harvest Date	Ranking	Score
Craig Marcum	Logan	11/19/2019	1	174 1/8
Perry Bailey	Logan	11/06/2019	2	163 3/8
Carl Smith Jr.	Wyoming	11/18/2019	3	163 0/8
David Triplett	McDowell	11/13/2019	4	162 6/8
Martin E. Marek	McDowell	11/15/2019	5	154 6/8
Kerry R. Bailey	McDowell	11/04/2019	6	152 2/8
Joshua Fry	Logan	12/26/2019	7	151 7/8
Ryan Butcher	Logan	11/10/2019	8	151 4/8
Dennis Lee Crane	Wyoming	11/05/2019	9	150 5/8
David Miller	Mingo	11/04/2019	10	150 1/8
James Bowen	Mingo	11/13/2019	11	149 7/8
Zachary Bolling	McDowell	10/23/2019	12	148 2/8
Derek Latimer	Logan	11/02/2019	13	146 2/8
David Harris	Barbour	10/19/2019	14	146 0/8
Nick Christian	Mingo	10/05/2019	15	144 5/8
Josh Riffe	McDowell	11/14/2019	16	144 4/8
Robert Boroski	McDowell	11/14/2019	17	144 3/8
Charles Poe Jr.	McDowell	11/16/2019	18	143 2/8
Jacob Miller	Logan	09/28/2019	19	142 4/8
Brandon Vinson	Wyoming	10/25/2019	19	142 4/8
Dave Tolliver	Wyoming	11/05/2019	21	141 7/8
John Vealey	Boone	10/10/2019	22	141 5/8
Zachary Woods	Hancock	09/28/2019	23	141 0/8
Dennis Brewster	Logan	11/09/2019	24	140 1/8

Jonathan Caltrider	Ritchie	10/05/2019	25	139 6/8
Ryan Boone	Upshur	10/04/2019	26	138 4/8
Victor England	McDowell	11/06/2019	27	137 6/8
Randal Scott Williams	Monroe	10/04/2019	28	136 7/8
Eugene Spurlock	Logan	11/17/2019	29	136 4/8
Terry Smith Jr.	Boone	11/19/2019	30	135 2/8
Max Landers	Kanawha	10/14/2019	31	135 0/8
Jermy Yahya	Mercer	09/28/2019	32	133 6/8
Joshua DeBoard	Putnam	10/15/2019	33	133 0/8
Larry Rockel	Mingo	10/07/2019	34	132 2/8
David Spencer Jr.	Clay	11/13/2019	35	129 6/8
Justin Stanton	Upshur	11/11/2019	36	129 4/8
Justin Hylton	Ritchie	11/11/2019	37	129 1/8
Justin Bledsoe	Logan	11/05/2019	38	128 7/8
Josh Huhl	McDowell	12/14/2019	39	128 5/8
Gary Carte	Fayette	10/24/2019	40	126 6/8
Larry Gray	Mason	11/12/2019	41	126 4/8
Steven Southern	Raleigh	11/17/2019	42	126 3/8
Garrett Lindsey	Monroe	10/19/2019	43	126 2/8
Joseph Curry	Mercer	12/28/2019	44	126 1/8
Todd Starkey	Upshur	11/06/2019	45	125 4/8

Antler Configuration: Non-Typical

Weapon: Bow

Name	County	Harvest Date	Ranking	Score
William Carney	Kanawha	11/10/2019	1	180 1/8
Trace Boone Butcher	Logan	11/15/2019	2	178 0/8

Antler Configuration: Typical**Weapon: Crossbow**

Name	County	Harvest Date	Ranking	Score
Patrick Hanson	Putnam	11/10/2019	1	150 5/8
Jim Close	Tucker	11/12/2019	2	149 5/8
Brantie Nottingham	Braxton	11/08/2019	3	147 2/8
Christopher Lockard	Braxton	10/12/2019	4	141 5/8
Steve Monroe	Kanawha	11/15/2019	5	140 3/8
Wayne Lee	Webster	11/09/2019	6	138 3/8
Terry E. Brewer	Marion	11/04/2019	7	130 5/8
Kent Hellems	Summers	11/10/2019	8	127 6/8
Cole Frame	Clay	10/16/2019	9	127 2/8
Mark Spence	Wayne	10/14/2019	10	126 1/8

Antler Configuration: Non-Typical**Weapon: Crossbow**

Name	County	Harvest Date	Ranking	Score
Jessie Hatfield	Logan	10/01/2019	1	185 4/8

Antler Configuration: Typical**Weapon: Gun**

Name	County	Harvest Date	Ranking	Score
Austin Brown	Nicholas	11/25/2019	1	149 5/8
William Denny Jr.	Clay	11/25/2019	2	146 3/8
Lester Thompson	Boone	11/25/2019	3	144 1/8

Antler Configuration: Typical**Weapon: Muzzleloader**

Name	County	Harvest Date	Ranking	Score
Jonathan Caltrider	Ritchie	12/18/2019	1	156 0/8