

2022 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 who 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 NonTypical. 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 2022-2023, 208 hunters had their deer officially measured by an Official Scorer at a WVDNR District Office, WVDNR field office, or by an Official Scorer at a different location. There are 15 WVDNR Wildlife Biologists and Wildlife Managers throughout the state who are certified as Official Scorers by Boone and Crockett Club and/or Pope and Young Club. During the 2022 hunting season, **93** 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.

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 participants in the WV Big Buck Certification Program this year.

2022 Big Buck Score Rankings

Antler Configuration: Typical

Weapon: Bow

Name	County	Harvest Date	Rank	Score
P.C. Messer	Mingo	11/25/22	1	165.7
Brain Martin	Mason	11/27/22	2	157.4
Trevor Bostic	Roane	11/14/22	3	155.5
Ryan Huffman	McDowell	11/20/22	4	154.6
Justin Whisman	Logan	10/31/22	5	148.1
Jacob May	Mingo	11/28/22	6	145.6
James Ferguson	Cabell	10/22/22	7	145.6
Kenny Hughes	McDowell	11/25/22	8	145.4
Tori Butcher	Logan	9/28/22	9	145.4
Timmy Jones	Wyoming	11/23/22	10	145
Timothy White	Gilmer	10/26/22	11	143.4
Willie Morgan	Wyoming	11/16/22	13	141.3
Randall Tiller	Wyoming	11/24/22	14	140.7
William Mert	Logan	10/18/22	15	140.6
Gary Keith Vannatter	Mingo	12/13/22	16	140.5
Chandler Call	Cabell	10/27/22	17	140.4
Charles Mullins	Wyoming	11/17/22	18	140.3
Zachary Hatfield	Logan	11/08/22	19	140.2
Kevin Blevins	McDowell	11/12/22	20	140
Dakota Boothe	Wyoming	11/11/22	21	139.1
Keith Dotson	Mingo	12/04/22	22	138.7
Brandon Vinson	Wyoming	11/03/22	23	138.6
Luke Stevens	Wyoming	11/01/22	24	138.5
Donald Baisden	Logan	10/17/22	25	138
Dakota Boothe	Wyoming	11/11/22	26	137.4
Joe Wilson	McDowell	11/10/22	27	137.3
Ralph Romanello	McDowell	11/26/22	28	137.3
Isaac Doss	Logan	12/22/22	29	136.6
Keith Potter	McDowell	10/29/22	30	134.7
Nick Christian	Logan	12/04/22	31	134.5
Herb Wills	Summers	11/10/22	32	134.4
Charles Sutphin	Lincoln	11/13/22	33	134.2
Aharon Davis	Logan	11/01/22	34	134
Joshua Debord	Lincoln	11/08/22	35	134
Josh Debord	Lincoln	11/08/22	36	133.7
Brandon Roberts	Logan	10/27/22	37	133.3

Antler Configuration: Typical**Weapon: Bow**

Name	County	Harvest Date	Rank	Score
Richie Dunlap	Upshur	9/30/22	38	133.2
Jason Brown	Summers	11/15/22	39	133.1
Perry Bailey	Logan	11/19/22	40	133.1
Eric Groseclose	Wyoming	10/31/22	41	133
Hunter Moses	Mercer	10/31/22	42	133
Timothy Keffer	Roane	11/14/22	43	132.5
Derek Stanely	Putnam	11/18/22	44	131.7
Tyler Cecil	McDowell	9/26/22	45	131.2
Jonathon Shreve	Webster	11/14/22	46	129.7
Greg Cook	Wyoming	10/08/22	47	129.4
Ervin Dillon	Logan	11/24/22	48	129.2
Brayden Reese	Putnam	9/24/22	49	129
Matt Lee	Logan	11/15/22	50	128.5
Ed Walker	McDowell	11/19/22	51	128.4
Tyler Fitzko	Wyoming	10/25/22	52	128
Donald Ward	Summers	9/26/22	53	127.1
D.J. Corn	Mingo	12/14/22	54	127
Natasha Vinson	Wyoming	9/25/22	55	126
Charles Poe	McDowell	11/12/22	56	125.7
Lakin Jerrell	Wyoming	11/26/22	57	125.6
Brandon Potter	McDowell	11/09/22	58	125.5
Justin Shannon	Kanawha	10/04/22	59	125.4
Billy Barton	Mason	9/26/22	60	125.2
Jason Ballengee	Summers	11/10/22	61	125.2
Stevie Addair	Logan	11/19/22	62	125.2

2022 Big Buck Score Rankings

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

No scores this year

2022 Big Buck Score Rankings

Antler Configuration: Typical

Weapon: Rifle

Name	County	Harvest Date	Rank	Score
Brian Hanna	Webster	11/26/22	1	156.1
Greg Green	Boone	11/24/22	2	153.5
Phyllip D. Worley	Raleigh	11/21/22	3	150.7
Zane Wolfe	Fayette	11/26/22	4	149.1
Marc Lowe	Kanawha	11/22/22	5	147.4
Stacey Arthur	Fayette	11/22/22	6	146.6
John Patton	Jackson	11/21/22	7	139.6
Carter Stover	Nicholas	11/22/22	8	138.3
Kevin Webb	Raleigh	11/23/22	9	133.7
Josh Roberts	Kanawha	11/02/22	10	133.2
Carson Thompson	Wayne	11/24/22	11	130.1
John Early	Nicholas	11/21/22	12	127.5
Tommy Miller	Summers	11/23/22	13	127.5
Lucas Humphreys	Lincoln	11/23/22	14	126.1

2022 Big Buck Score Rankings

Antler Configuration: Non-Typical

Weapon: Rifle

Name	County	Harvest Date	Rank	Score
Caleb Harlan	Fayette	11/21/22	1	164.7

2022 Big Buck Score Rankings

Antler Configuration: Typical

Weapon: Crossbow

Name	County	Harvest Date	Rank	Score
James Day	Logan	11/19/22	1	167.4
Granville Sesco	Raleigh	11/17/22	2	165.5
Derek Morrison	Mingo	11/14/22	3	165.2
James Pickett	Boone	11/19/22	4	164
Jessie Hatfield	Logan	11/04/22	5	140.5
Christopher Vance	Kanawha	11/18/22	6	140.3
Timothy Auxier II	Fayette	10/22/22	7	139

Jimmy Davis	Wyoming	10/29/22	8	137.4
Kenneth Torres	McDowell	11/18/22	9	136.5
Kaylee butcher	Logan	10/01/22	10	135.1
Waylen Kincaid	Nicholas	9/25/22	11	135
Darin Stauffer	Mercer	10/22/22	12	132.6
Chad Dickerson	Jackson	10/08/22	13	130.5

2022 Big Buck Score Rankings

Antler Configuration: Non-Typical

Weapon: Crossbow

Name	County	Harvest Date	Rank	Score
Norman Parks	McDowell	12/15/22	1	179.2

2022 Big Buck Score Rankings

Antler Configuration: Typical

Weapon: Muzzleloader

Name	County	Harvest Date	Rank	Score
Bryan Hammond	Cabell	12/17/22	1	150.7
Charles Leadman	Kanawha	12/15/22	2	141.2

2022 Big Buck Score Rankings

Antler Configuration: Non-Typical

Weapon: Muzzleloader

No scores this year