



Thanks to bear hunters voluntarily participating in our bear cooperator program, NCWRC gets data from approximately 45% of bears harvested in North Carolina. Information from all bears helps the NCWRC monitor the status of our bear population, which is an important aspect of our bear management program



Bear hunters participating in the cooperator program can have their bear weighed by NCWRC staff (based on staff availability) and find out the age of their harvested bear by submitting the upper premolar teeth.

To find out more about participating in the bear cooperator program, contact your district biologist or call 919-707-0050.

Top ten bear weights recorded by NCWRC during the bear hunting seasons in North Carolina, 1969-2014.

Rank	Year	Month	County	Region	Type of Hunt	Weight	Sex	Age
1	1998	Nov	Craven	C	DG	880	M	10.75
2	2014	Dec	Hyde	C	DG	784	M	9.75
3	2014	Nov	Hyde	C	ST	782	M	9.75
4	2012	Dec	Washington	C	DG	780	M	6.75
4	2013	Dec	Craven	C	DG	780	M	8.75
5	2009	Nov	Hyde	C	ST	760	M	6.75
6	2007	Nov	Dare	C	ST	752	M	7.75
7	2001	Nov	Gates	C	DG	742	M	9.75
8	2001	Dec	Beaufort	C	DG	740	M	13.75
9	2012	Dec	Hyde	C	DG	735	M	11.75
9	2014	Dec	Tyrrell	C	DG	735	M	7.75
10	2003	Nov	Hyde	C	DG	725	M	9.75
10	2009	Dec	Bertie	C	DG	725	M	8.75

Table 2. Number of harvested male bears weighing over 500 lbs. in North Carolina, 1969-2014.

Weight Categor	Total bears			
	Mountains	Coast	Piedmont	
> 500 lbs.	44	1,136	1	
> 600 lbs.	4	244	0	
> 700 lbs.	0	20	0	
> 800 lbs.	0	1	0	



NCWRC staff and hunters weighing a bear in eastern North Carolina.