



Attention Bear Hunters!

Submitting the bear tooth is **mandatory** for all hunter harvested bears!



Why submit the premolar tooth?

- It is **mandatory** to submit at least one premolar tooth from your harvested bear by January 31st.
- Your information allows NCWRC biologists to better monitor bear populations, make management decisions, and evaluate the impacts of bear hunting.
- Mandatory tooth submission will help biologists more accurately model bear population trends at both the bear management unit level and the zone level.
- **We will send you a complimentary “North Carolina Black Bear Cooperator” ball cap and an age report for your bear in September.**

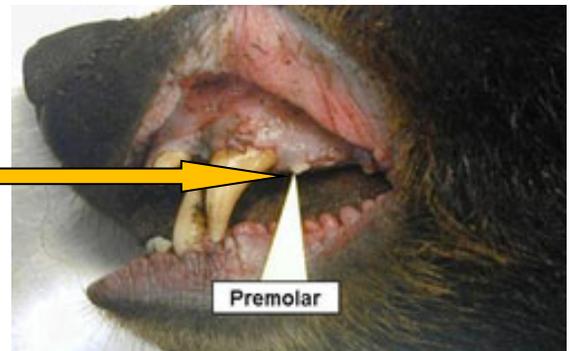
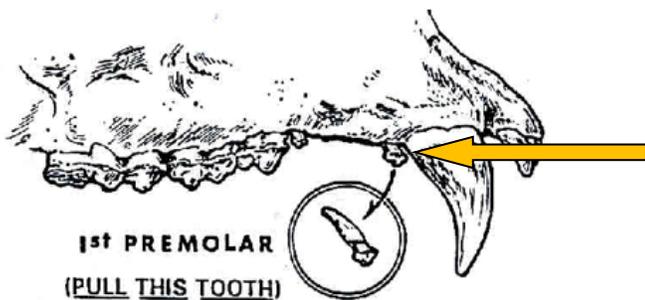


How to submit your premolar tooth?

- Place the premolar tooth from your harvested bear in the NCWRC Tyvek tooth envelope and place the tooth envelope in the mail.
- Once we receive your tooth, you will be compliant with the state law and will get an e-mail notification if we have a valid e-mail address on file. Your big game harvest record will also indicate we received your tooth.
- We advise you extract and keep the other premolar tooth as a back-up tooth in case we need that tooth.
- If you lost the bear tooth Tyvek envelope, call 919-707-0050 to have a new envelope sent to you.

Instructions for Collecting Bear Teeth

(An instructional video is available at www.newwildlife.org/bear)



Submit the first premolar from the upper jaw (see pictures).

- 1) If you break the root of both upper premolars, or the upper premolars are gone, please try the lower premolars located immediately behind the lower canine.
- 2) The tooth we need is the very small tooth immediately behind the upper and lower canine tooth (see pictures).
- 3) Use a knife blade to cut the gum down and away from the tooth.
- 4) Once loosened, pull the tooth out with pliers or pry it out with a screwdriver using the canine as a lever.
DO NOT BREAK THE TOOTH OFF AT THE GUMLINE; WE NEED THE WHOLE TOOTH INCLUDING THE ROOT.
- 5) If you are unable to pull a premolar, the jaw can be cut and sent to us.
- 6) Removing this tooth and cutting into the gum does not impact taxidermy work or your mount.

Please call your local district biologist for help