

# Skulls and Carcasses Wanted



The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Furbearer Team is interested in collecting the following:

**Bobcat Skulls**

**Otter Skulls**

**Spotted Skunk Carcasses**

This year we will be shipping coordinators pre-paid envelopes to mail in bobcat and otter samples instead of coordinating in-person pick-ups. The canine tooth will be used to look at the age structure of the harvest.




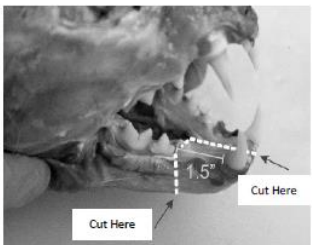
Additionally, we're hoping to obtain carcasses of spotted skunks to collect locations and tissue samples, including genetic samples, to increase our knowledge of this elusive furbearer species. Please contact Casey Dukes (information below) to submit a carcass.

Projects such as these are important, as they help us monitor populations and improve our knowledge of North Carolina furbearers. We feel this information will help us maintain trapping for future generations.

**In return for your cooperation, you will receive a furbearer cooperator patch and the age of submitted animals. Thank you in advance!**

**NCWRC – BOBCAT & OTTER JAW SAMPLE ENVELOPE**



- USE ONLY ONE (1) ENVELOPE PER ANIMAL.** Only submit animals trapped during the regulated trapping season (no road killed or hunted animals please). If you need additional envelopes, please call 919-609-7226.
- We need the two (2) bottom canines from each animal; cut the jaw bone with loppers or hacksaw between the lower canines and 1.5 inches back from canine (see photo). Be careful not to cut too close to the canine tooth, so it is not damaged. The root of the tooth is needed to determine age of the animal. **DO NOT** attempt to pull the canine tooth from the jaw because it will break in half.  

- Clean away as much flesh as possible from the sample to avoid spoilage. **Allow the jaw section to completely dry** before enclosing the sample within this pre-paid sample envelope and mail.

7-DIGIT WRC CUSTOMER # (found on your license, if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE HARVESTED: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY OF HARVEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
(if exact date unknown, please provide month and year)

SPECIES (Check one):  BOBCAT  RIVER OTTER

SEX OF ANIMAL\* (Check one):  MALE  FEMALE  UNKNOWN

\*Note - The sex of otters and bobcats can be difficult to determine. If testicles are not visible, make an incision in the abdomen of the carcass and examine for presence of uterus and ovaries, which can be found behind the bladder and below the kidneys.

*You will receive a cooperator patch and age report for your harvested animals.*

**NEW for 2019-2020:**  
Cut and dry the portion of the lower jaw containing the canine tooth. Follow instructions on pre-paid envelope to ship.

For envelopes, contact:  
**Casey Dukes**  
Surveys and Research Biologist  
919-609-7226  
casey.dukes@ncwildlife.org

For more information visit:  
[ncwildlife.org/furcooperator](http://ncwildlife.org/furcooperator)