

Guide to Online Game Check – Black Bear

This tutorial will guide you through the process of using the **MassFishHunt** system to check your black bear online. Please take a few minutes to read through this guide before beginning.

To check a harvested black bear online, there are a few, but very important pieces of information needed. Required information will include: town of harvest, date of harvest, and the bear's sex, your hunting method, equipment used, the habitat where you encountered the bear, whether or not you will submit a tooth for aging, and whether or not the bear had a radio collar or ear tags. In addition, optional data questions will include: bear weight, whether the bear was gutted, and whether the weight is an estimate or from a scale.

Remember the harvest tag must remain attached to the black bear throughout this process. After the completion of the online game check, a confirmation number will be generated that must be written on the harvest tag. All successful hunters must check their harvested black bear within 48 hours either online through the **MassFishHunt** system or at a traditional check station. NOTE: You must check your harvested bear BEFORE you process the bear for food or taxidermy purposes. Please use care when entering information on the harvested bear into the **MassFishHunt** system, particularly the date of harvest. Please contact the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife (DFW) during business hours at 508-389-6300 if you have issues checking your black bear online.

- 1) To start, go to the official **MassFishHunt** webpage by clicking below, or copy and paste the following link into your web browser (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, Safari) to reach the official **MassFishHunt** webpage.

<http://www.mass.gov/massfishhunt>

The screenshot shows the Mass.gov website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'State Offices & Courts', 'State A-Z Topics', and 'State Forms'. A search bar is located in the top right corner. Below the navigation bar, the main header reads 'Energy and Environmental Affairs'. A secondary navigation bar contains links for 'Agriculture', 'Energy & Utilities', 'Environmental Protection', 'Fisheries, Wildlife & Habitats', 'Water & Climate Change', 'Recreation & Conservation', and 'Services & Assistance'. The main content area is titled 'MassFishHunt Licensing Information' and includes a video player for 'Striped Bass Fishing'. To the right of the video is a large yellow button labeled 'Enter MassFishHunt'. Below this button, there is a list of requirements for online purchases. On the far right, a sidebar contains a 'Licensing Info' section with links to 'Licensing Information', 'Who Needs a License?', 'License Types and Fees', 'Where to Buy a License', 'Licensing Help', and 'Licensing FAQs'. Below this is a 'Related Topics' section with links to 'Antlerless Deer Permit Update', 'Laws & Regulations', and 'Publications'. At the bottom of the sidebar is the 'Department of Fish and Game' section with links to 'Department Home', 'Division of Fisheries & Wildlife', 'Division of Marine Fisheries', and 'Division of Ecological Restoration'. A red arrow points from the 'Enter MassFishHunt' button to the 'Licensing Info' section in the sidebar.

Mass.gov State Offices & Courts | State A-Z Topics | State Forms No Active Alerts Skip to main content | English

The Official Website of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Energy and Environmental Affairs Search... in Energy & Environment SEARCH

Agriculture Energy & Utilities Environmental Protection Fisheries, Wildlife & Habitats Water & Climate Change Recreation & Conservation Services & Assistance

Home > Department of Fish & Game > Licensing Information

MassFishHunt Licensing Information

Find information about saltwater and freshwater fishing, hunting, and trapping licenses, permits, and stamps. Also, information on the new online licensing system - [MassFishHunt](#) - and how and where to buy a license.



Striped Bass Fishing

1 2 3 4 5 II

Enter MassFishHunt

Purchase a Massachusetts Fishing, Hunting or Sporting License, a Recreational Lobster Permit, a Saltwater Fishing Permit, or Check your Harvested Game online.

Online purchases require the following:

1. Major credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express)
2. Local printer to print licenses, permits and stamps
3. Plain, white, letter-sized printer paper

MassFishHunt Telephone Sales

Currently available for Saltwater Fishing Permits only! Please have credit card information ready.

Phone#: 1-866-703-1925

Hours: Mon-Sun, 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Licensing Info

- Licensing Information
- Who Needs a License?
- License Types and Fees
- Where to Buy a License
- Licensing Help
- Licensing FAQs

Related Topics

- Antlerless Deer Permit Update
- Laws & Regulations
- Publications

Department of Fish and Game

- Department Home
- Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
- Division of Marine Fisheries
- Division of Ecological Restoration

Customer Service

For assistance using [MassFishHunt](#) or questions about payments please call the Help Desk at 1-888-773-8450 or email mahfwebmaster@als-xtn.com

Help Desk Hours:

Monday - Friday: 8am - 7pm (EST)
Saturday: 8am - 5pm (EST)
Sunday: Closed

Please note that your MassFishHunt transactions will be

Click the [Enter MassFishHunt] button shown above.

2) To enter the **MassFishHunt** system, enter your **Last Name** and **Customer ID** number from your hunting/sporting license or black bear permit in the appropriate field and click **NEXT**. Your Customer ID number can be found in the top left corner of your hunting/sporting license or black bear permit, and in the top left corner of the harvest tag.

Welcome to the MassFishHunt Licensing system.

To maintain complete and accurate information, we need to know whether you are a new or existing customer. Please use one of the options below to search for your existing customer record or to create a new customer record.

Search by Customer ID

If you know your Customer ID, enter the required information and click next.

Last Name:* Customer ID:*

Search by Personal Information (NEW Customers, please use this option)

If you cannot provide the information requested above, or if you are a NEW customer, please use this option to search for your existing customer record or to create a new customer record.

Last Name:* Date Of Birth:*
MM/DD/YYYY

Plus at least one of the items below:

First Name: Postal Code:

Note: Asterisk (*) denotes required information.

© Copyright 2011 - Active Outdoors - Version 1.9.15.17715
For questions regarding Hunting or Inland Fishing, please contact the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife at (617) 626-1590.
For questions regarding Recreational Saltwater Fishing, please contact the Division of Marine Fisheries at (617) 626-1520.
For internet licensing help, please contact Active Outdoors at (888) 773-8450. (Note: License Agents should call (866) 703-1926).

3) Once logged into the **MassFishHunt** system you can begin your online black bear check; click on the **REPORT A HARVEST** button.

The screenshot shows the MassFishHunt web application interface. The browser window title is "Customer Main". The page features the MassFishHunt logo at the top. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains the "Customer Profile Summary" with the following details:

Customer ID:	1384630		
Last Name:	Hunter	First Name:	Bear
Middle Initial:		Suffix:	
Date of Birth:	1/1/1974	Citizenship:	US Citizen
Residency:	Resident	Residency Date:	

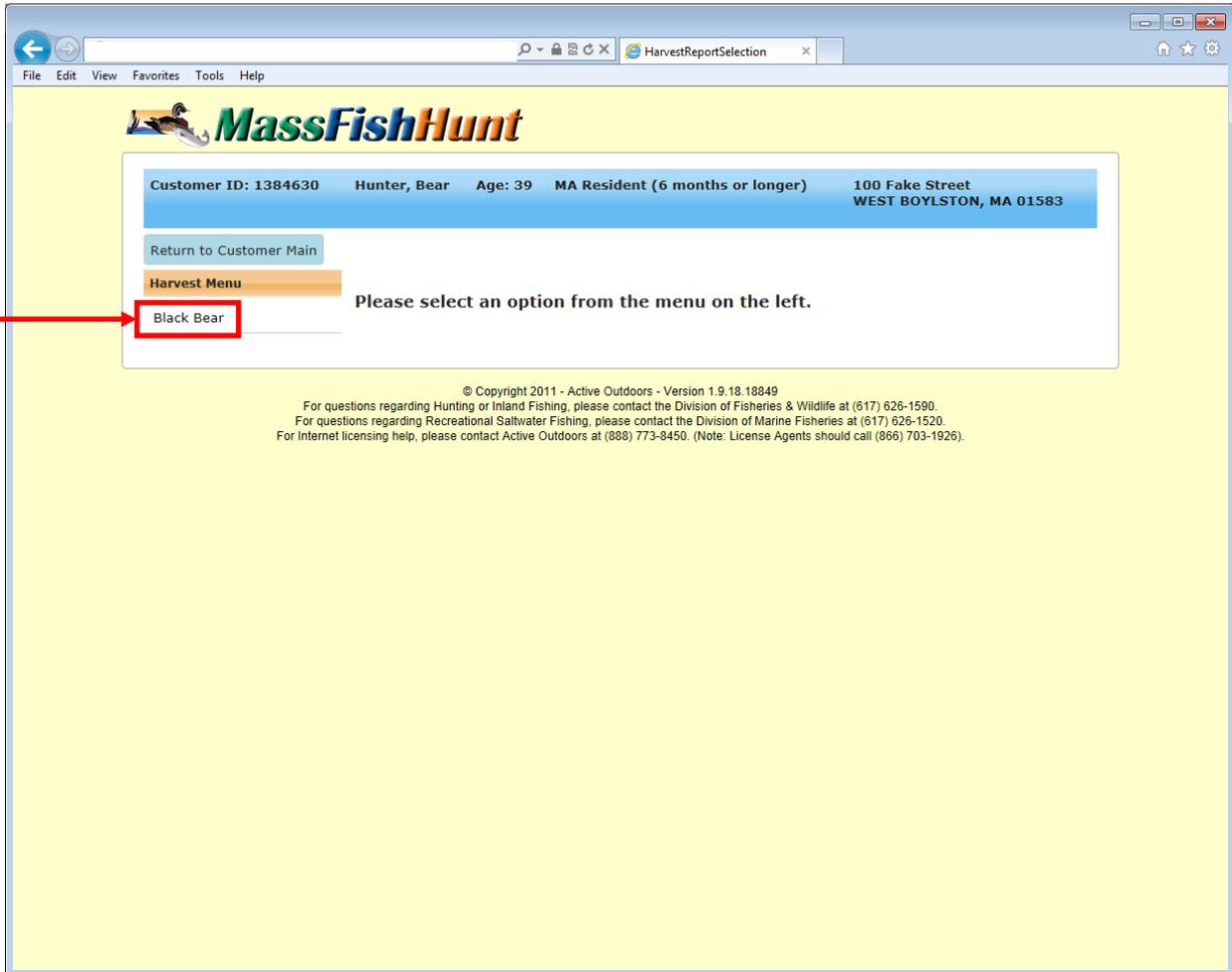
Below this is the "Residence Address" (100 Fake Street, WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583) and "Mailing Address" (100 Fake Street, WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583). The "Hunter Education Records" section shows "Hunter Ed Affidavit (POS)". The "Optional Information" section includes: Gender: Male, Hair: Brown, Eyes: Green, Height: 6' 0", Weight: 190, and Email: (empty).

The right column contains the "Customer Menu" with links for "Edit Customer Information", "License Inventory / Reprint", "Privacy Policy", and "Exit". A red text block states: "The customer swears under the pains and penalties of perjury that the personal information provided is accurate. The customer also understands that including false information in this application is against the law. Click the 'Enter Sales' button to acknowledge the customer's affirmation regarding the above statements and to make a purchase".

At the bottom of the main content area, there are two buttons: "Enter Sales" and "Report a Harvest". The "Report a Harvest" button is highlighted with a red rectangular box, and a red arrow points from the left margin to this button.

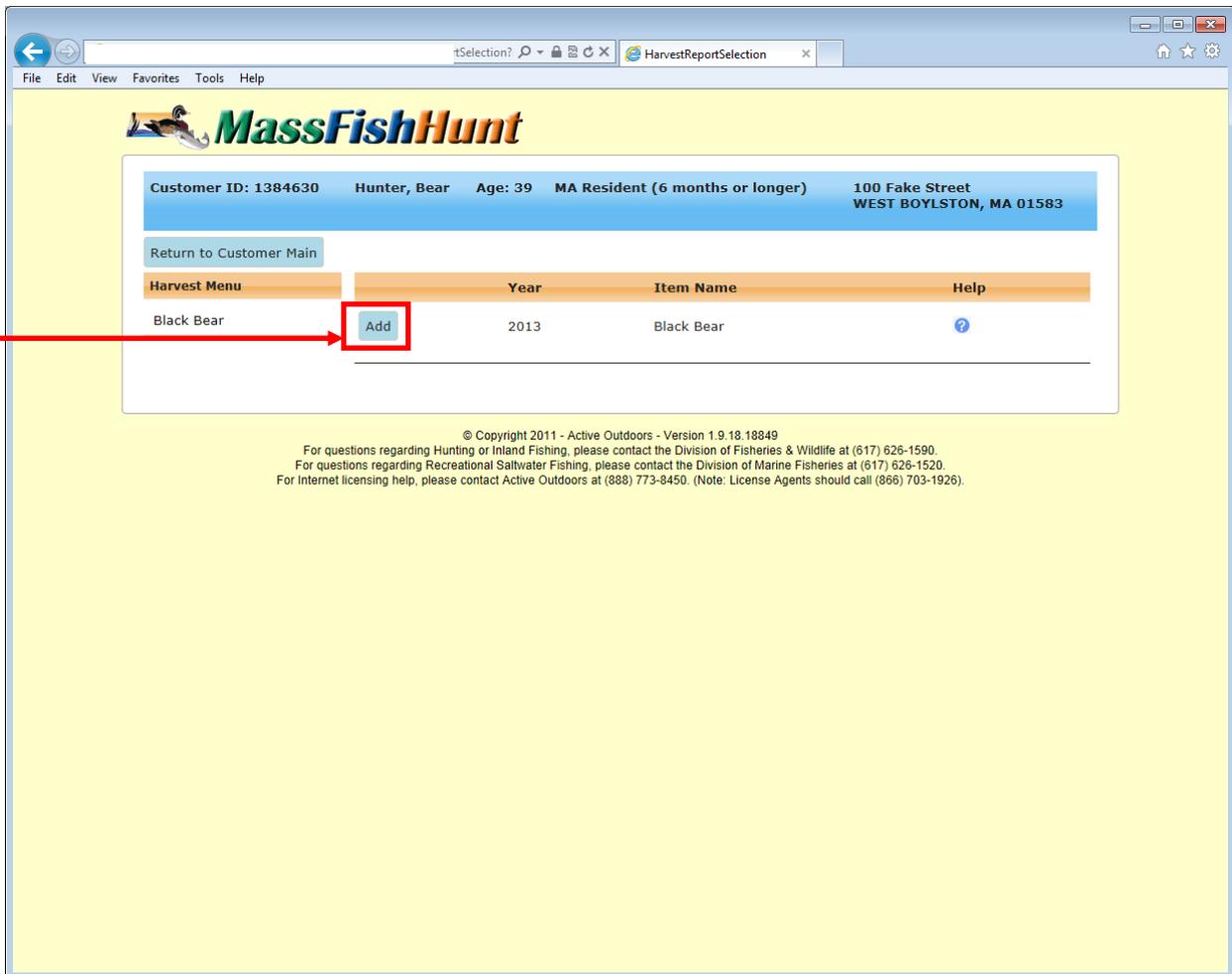
© Copyright 2011 - Active Outdoors - Version 1.9.18.18849
For questions regarding Hunting or Inland Fishing, please contact the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife at (617) 626-1590.
For questions regarding Recreational Saltwater Fishing, please contact the Division of Marine Fisheries at (617) 626-1520.
For Internet licensing help, please contact Active Outdoors at (888) 773-8450. (Note: License Agents should call (866) 703-1926).

4) Click the **Black Bear** option on the left side under **HARVEST MENU**. On this page, you may also see options to check your harvested deer, turkey, or furbearers during their respective seasons if you have the appropriate licenses or permits.



5) You are now ready to begin your online game check for a harvested black bear.

Click the **ADD** button.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `HarvestReportSelection`. The page header features the **MassFishHunt** logo. Below the logo is a blue bar containing customer information: **Customer ID: 1384630**, **Hunter, Bear**, **Age: 39**, **MA Resident (6 months or longer)**, and **100 Fake Street WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583**. A button labeled **Return to Customer Main** is located below this bar. The main content area contains a table with the following structure:

Harvest Menu	Year	Item Name	Help
Black Bear	2013	Black Bear	?

The **Add** button in the **Harvest Menu** column for the **Black Bear** row is highlighted with a red box. A red arrow points from the text above to this button.

© Copyright 2011 - Active Outdoors - Version 1.9.18.18849
For questions regarding Hunting or Inland Fishing, please contact the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife at (617) 626-1590.
For questions regarding Recreational Saltwater Fishing, please contact the Division of Marine Fisheries at (617) 626-1520.
For internet licensing help, please contact Active Outdoors at (888) 773-8450. (Note: License Agents should call (866) 703-1926).

6) The **2013 BLACK BEAR HARVEST REPORT** consists of a series of questions, many of which are multiple-choice. Questions 1-8 are required information, the rest are optional. You will need to examine your black bear for some of these questions. Your responses to these questions provide DFW biologists important information used to evaluate and manage the statewide bear population. Please take a few minutes to answer each question accurately. Also, please consider submitting a tooth for aging (guidance is provided in step 8b). Simply click in the box to the right of each question and enter or click on the appropriate response.

MassFishHunt

Customer ID: 1384630 Hunter, Bear Age: 39 MA Resident (6 months or longer) 100 Fake Street
WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583

2013 - Black Bear

- In which town did you harvest the bear? WEST BOYLSTON
- What was the date of harvest? 09/10/2013
- What is the sex of the bear? Male
- What was your hunting method? From a treestand
- What hunting equipment did you use to harvest the bear? Rifle
- In what habitat did you first encounter the bear? Hardwoods
- Will you submit a tooth for aging? Please visit the MassWildlife website for instructions on how to submit. Yes
- Did the bear have a radio collar or ear tags? PLEASE RETURN ANY COLLAR TO YOUR LOCAL DFW OFFICE. Yes
- If ear tagged, what were the ear tag numbers? [Select One] **Yes**
- *OPTIONAL* What is the weight (in pounds) of the bear? No
- *OPTIONAL* Was the bear gutted or ungutted? [Select One]
- *OPTIONAL* Did you weigh the bear on a scale or estimate the weight? [Select One]
- *OPTIONAL* Please list any additional comments:

Cancel Submit

© Copyright 2011 - Active Outdoors - Version 1.9.18.18849
For questions regarding Hunting or Inland Fishing, please contact the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife at (617) 626-1590.
For questions regarding Recreational Saltwater Fishing, please contact the Division of Marine Fisheries at (617) 626-1520.
For internet licensing help, please contact Active Outdoors at (888) 773-8450. (Note: License Agents should call (866) 703-1926)

6a) You can click on the blue question marks to the right of each question for additional information to help answer each question.

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Customer Harvest Report" displaying the "MassFishHunt" interface. At the top, user information is shown: Customer ID: 1384630, Hunter, Bear, Age: 39, MA Resident (6 months or longer), and address: 100 Fake Street, WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583. Below this is a section for "2013 - Black Bear" with 13 numbered questions. Each question has a corresponding input field (text, dropdown, or radio button) and a blue question mark icon to its right. A red arrow points from the text above to the question mark for question 1. A "Help" popup window is open over question 6, containing the text "Fill in the town in which you harvested the bear." and a "Close" button. At the bottom of the form are "Cancel" and "Submit" buttons. Copyright information and contact details for the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife are at the very bottom.

Customer ID: 1384630 Hunter, Bear Age: 39 MA Resident (6 months or longer) 100 Fake Street
WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583

2013 - Black Bear

- 1 . In which town did you harvest the bear? WEST BOYLSTON ?
- 2 . What was the date of harvest? 09/10/2013 ?
- 3 . What is the sex of the bear? Male ?
- 4 . What was your hunting method? From a treestand ?
- 5 . What hunting equipment did you use to harvest the bear? Rifle ?
- 6 . In what habitat did you first encounter the bear? Hardwoods ?
- 7 . Will you submit a tooth for aging? Please visit [www.mass.gov](#) for information on how to submit. Yes ?
- 8 . Did the bear have a radio collar or ear tags? LOCAL DFW OFFICE. Yes ?
- 9 . If ear tagged, what were the ear tag numbers? ?
- 10 . *OPTIONAL* What is the weight (in pounds) of the bear? ?
- 11 . *OPTIONAL* Was the bear gutted or ungutted? [Select One] ?
- 12 . *OPTIONAL* Did you weigh the bear on a scale or estimate the weight? [Select One] ?
- 13 . *OPTIONAL* Please list any additional comments: ?

Help Fill in the town in which you harvested the bear. Close

Cancel Submit

© Copyright 2011 - Active Outdoors - Version 1.9.18.18849
For questions regarding Hunting or Inland Fishing, please contact the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife at (617) 626-1590.
For questions regarding Recreational Saltwater Fishing, please contact the Division of Marine Fisheries at (617) 626-1520.
For internet licensing help, please contact Active Outdoors at (888) 773-8450. (Note: License Agents should call (866) 703-1926).

6b) The Division collects bear teeth to determine the age structure of the harvest. If you submit a tooth for aging, we will mail you a letter in June with your harvested bear's age. If you would like to contribute to the scientific management of Massachusetts' black bear population and would like to know the age of your bear, please follow the instructions below.

1. The tooth you should remove is the first premolar (see photo below). This is a very small tooth, just behind the large canine tooth. It does not matter if you take the left or the right tooth. However, the **root** is the most important part. Do not break the tooth.
2. Using a small sharp knife, or a sharp ¼-inch wood chisel, slide the blade down the side of the tooth and cut or separate the gum tissue where it sticks to the tooth. Using a small needle-nose pliers or the pliers on your multi-tool, wiggle the tooth slightly until you can pull it out of the jawbone and the gum. The tooth is only about ½-inch (or less) in length. Go easy and do not break it.

REMOVE THIS TOOTH



3. Put the tooth in the small envelope provided, or other small envelope, and mark it with your name, Customer ID number and confirmation number (or seal number) of your bear. Also include your name and mailing address. Put the small envelope in a regular mailing envelope and send it to:

MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
100 Hartwell Street, Suite 200
West Boylston, MA 01583

7) Once you have completed answering all questions, click the **SUBMIT** button (NOTE: not all fields are required). You will have a chance to edit your responses before they are finalized, but please double-check to ensure that all required fields are accurately entered.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the title 'Customer Harvest Report'. The page header features the 'MassFishHunt' logo and a navigation bar. Below the header, a blue bar displays customer information: 'Customer ID: 1384630', 'Hunter, Bear', 'Age: 39', 'MA Resident (6 months or longer)', and '100 Fake Street WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583'. The main content area is titled '2013 - Black Bear' and contains a list of 13 questions with corresponding input fields. The questions and their values are:

Question	Value
1. In which town did you harvest the bear?	WEST BOYLSTON
2. What was the date of harvest?	09/10/2013
3. What is the sex of the bear?	Male
4. What was your hunting method?	From a treestand
5. What hunting equipment did you use to harvest the bear?	Rifle
6. In what habitat did you first encounter the bear?	Hardwoods
7. Will you submit a tooth for aging? Please visit the MassWildlife website for instructions on how to submit.	Yes
8. Did the bear have a radio collar or ear tags? PLEASE RETURN ANY COLLAR TO YOUR LOCAL DFW OFFICE.	Yes
9. If ear tagged, what were the ear tag numbers?	789/790
10. *OPTIONAL* What is the weight (in pounds) of the bear?	200
11. *OPTIONAL* Was the bear gutted or ungutted?	Gutted
12. *OPTIONAL* Did you weigh the bear on a scale or estimate the weight?	Scale
13. *OPTIONAL* Please list any additional comments:	

At the bottom right of the form, there are two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Submit'. The 'Submit' button is highlighted with a red box, and a red arrow points to it from the right side of the page.

© Copyright 2011 - Active Outdoors - Version 1.9.18.18849
For questions regarding Hunting or Inland Fishing, please contact the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife at (617) 626-1590.
For questions regarding Recreational Saltwater Fishing, please contact the Division of Marine Fisheries at (617) 626-1520.
For internet licensing help, please contact Active Outdoors at (888) 773-8450. (Note: License Agents should call (866) 703-1926).

Please ensure that the date of harvest and all other fields are entered accurately.

8) You will need to confirm the submission by clicking **YES** on the pop-up. Before doing so, **make sure all the information provided is accurate** as you will not be able to edit any information after clicking YES. If you need to edit any information, click **NO** and then change your entries. When finished proceed from step 7.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying "Customer Harvest Report". The page header for "MassFishHunt" includes the user's profile: "Customer ID: 1384630", "Hunter, Bear", "Age: 39", "MA Resident (6 months or longer)", and "100 Fake Street WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583". The main content area is titled "2013 - Black Bear" and contains a list of 13 questions with corresponding input fields. A "Confirmation" pop-up window is overlaid on the form, asking "Once reports are submitted, no changes may be made. Are you sure you want to submit?". The "Yes" button in the pop-up is highlighted with a red box, and a red arrow points from the text in the instruction above to this button. The "No" button is also visible. At the bottom of the form, there are "Cancel" and "Submit" buttons. The footer contains copyright information for "Active Outdoors" and contact details for the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife and the Division of Marine Fisheries.

Customer ID: 1384630 Hunter, Bear Age: 39 MA Resident (6 months or longer) 100 Fake Street WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583

2013 - Black Bear

1. In which town did you harvest the bear? WEST BOYLSTON ?

2. What was the date of harvest? 09/10/2013 ?

3. What is the sex of the bear? Male ?

4. What was your hunting method? From a treestand ?

5. What hunting equipment did you use to harvest the bear? Rifle ?

6. In what habitat did you first encounter the bear? Hardwoods ?

7. Will you submit a tooth for aging? Please visit LOCAL DFW OFFICE. Yes ?

8. Did the bear have a radio collar or ear tags? LOCAL DFW OFFICE. Yes ?

9. If ear tagged, what were the ear tag numbers? 789/798 ?

10. *OPTIONAL* What is the weight (in pounds) of the bear? 200 ?

11. *OPTIONAL* Was the bear gutted or ungutted? Gutted ?

12. *OPTIONAL* Did you weigh the bear on a scale or estimate the weight? Scale ?

13. *OPTIONAL* Please list any additional comments:

Confirmation

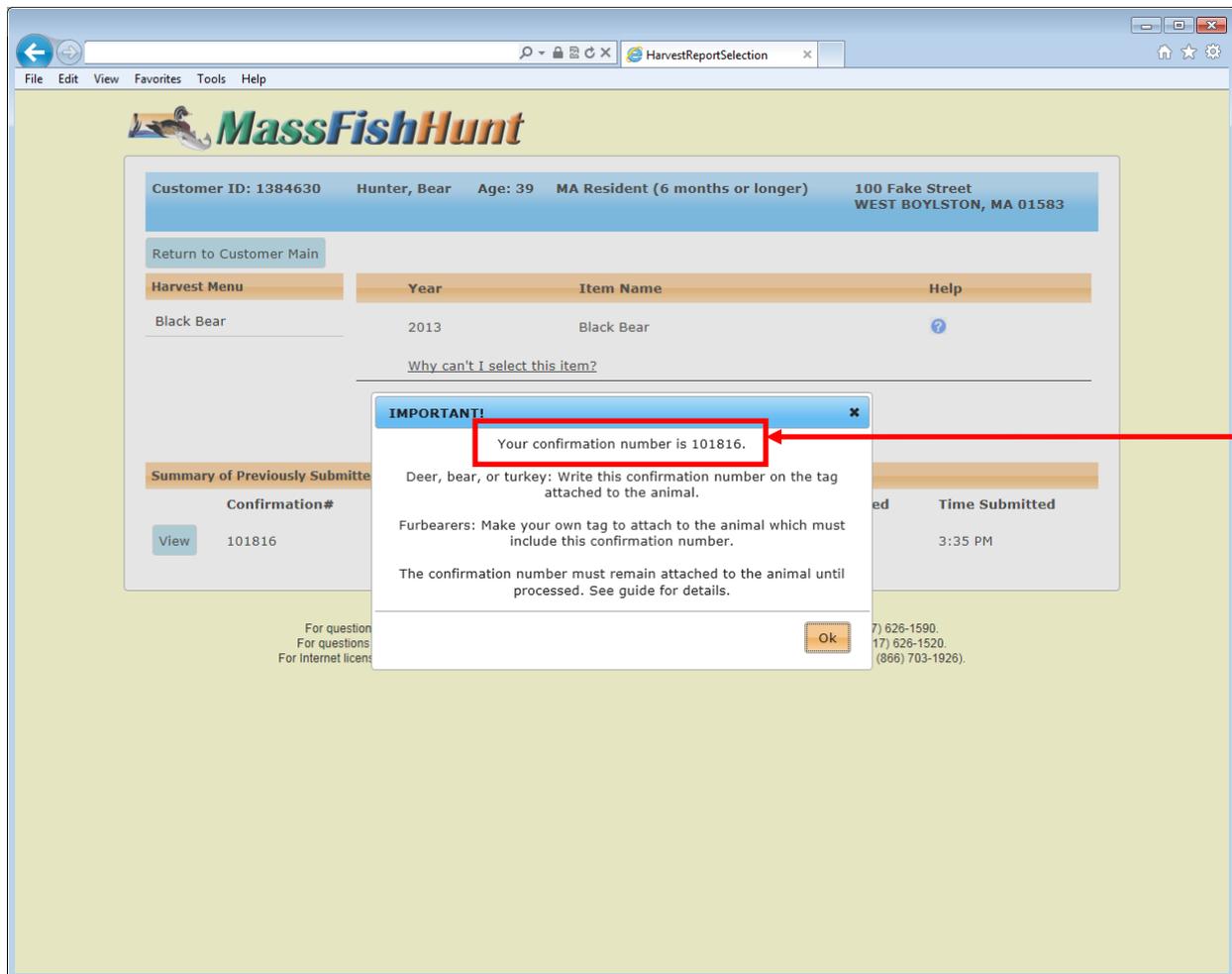
Once reports are submitted, no changes may be made. Are you sure you want to submit?

No Yes

Cancel Submit

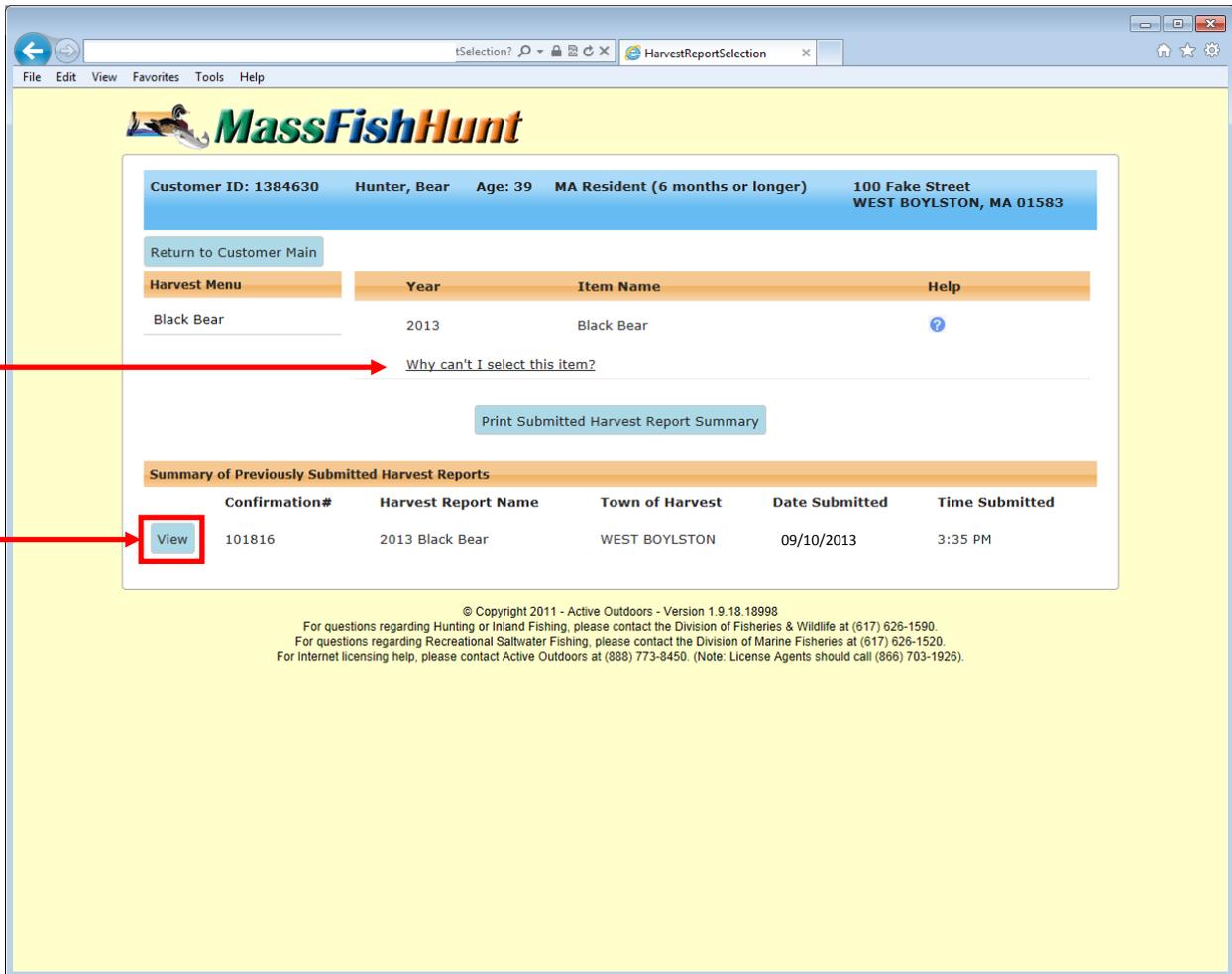
© Copyright 2011 - Active Outdoors - Version 1.9.18.18849
For questions regarding Hunting or Inland Fishing, please contact the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife at (617) 626-1590.
For questions regarding Recreational Saltwater Fishing, please contact the Division of Marine Fisheries at (617) 626-1520.
For internet licensing help, please contact Active Outdoors at (888) 773-8450. (Note: License Agents should call (866) 703-1926)

9) After completing your online game check, a unique **CONFIRMATION NUMBER** will be generated. It is required that you **write this confirmation number on the harvest tag** (that should still be on the harvested bear), where it shall remain until the bear is processed for food or taxidermy purposes. Butchers or taxidermists should not accept bears without an official metal tag (bear checked at a physical check station), or a harvest tag with a confirmation number (online game check).



Click on the **OK** button after you have recorded the confirmation number.

10) A hunter can harvest 1 bear per year. Thus, once you submit a harvest report for a bear, you can no longer add an additional black bear harvest report. If you reprint your bear permit, it will show that your permit has been fulfilled. If you made an error on your harvest report, you can no longer edit it and must contact MassWildlife.



The **MassFishHunt** system will store the game you have checked online. To view the specific details of any one online harvest report, click the **VIEW** button.

11) After clicking **VIEW**, this is what your harvest report looks like. The **MassFishHunt** system will store the submitted game checks, you may print a copy of these submitted harvest reports at any time.

2013 Black Bear

You may print this page for your records by clicking the **Print this Page** button. [Print this Page](#)

1. In which town did you harvest the bear?:	WEST BOYLSTON
2. What was the date of harvest?:	09/10/2013
3. What is the sex of the bear?:	Male
4. What was your hunting method?:	From a treestand
5. What hunting equipment did you use to harvest the bear?:	Rifle
6. In what habitat did you first encounter the bear?:	Hardwoods
7. Will you submit a tooth for aging? Please visit the MassWildlife website for instructions on how to submit.:	Yes
8. Did the bear have a radio collar or ear tags? PLEASE RETURN ANY COLLAR TO YOUR LOCAL DFW OFFICE.:	Yes
9. If ear tagged, what were the ear tag numbers?:	789/790
10. *OPTIONAL* What is the weight (in pounds) of the bear?:	200
11. *OPTIONAL* Was the bear gutted or ungutted?:	Gutted
12. *OPTIONAL* Did you weigh the bear on a scale or estimate the weight?:	Scale
13. *OPTIONAL* Please list any additional comments.:	
14. What is the check station number?:	
15. What is the seal number?:	101816
Confirmation Number	101816

[Return to Menu](#)

© Copyright 2011 - Active Outdoors - Version 1.9.18.18998
 For questions regarding Hunting or Inland Fishing, please contact the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife at (617) 626-1590.
 For questions regarding Recreational Saltwater Fishing, please contact the Division of Marine Fisheries at (617) 626-1520.
 For internet licensing help, please contact Active Outdoors at (888) 773-8450. (Note: License Agents should call (866) 703-1926).