

# INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

## United States Department of Agriculture

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### WATERFOWL HUNTERS URGED TO BUY DUCK STAMPS EARLY

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Duck hunters planning to be in the marshes on the opening day of the waterfowl season should not wait until the last minute to buy their 1938 migratory bird hunting stamps, says the U. S. Biological Survey. Last year a number of hunters making a last minute rush to the post office were disappointed to learn that the local supply of "duck stamps" had been exhausted.

The season this year on ducks and geese opens in the States in the northern zone October 1 and closes November 14. In the intermediate zone the season is October 15 to November 28, and in the southern zone, November 15 to December 29. Dates are inclusive.

Postmasters try to anticipate the demand for stamps, but when more than the usual number of hunters appear a day or so before the season opens some of them may have to visit other post offices to get their stamps or postpone their hunting until a new supply is received. Last year the sale of more than 750,000 stamps exceeded the number sold in any previous year. Ninety percent of the proceeds as provided by law are used by the Biological Survey, with other Federal funds, in acquiring, developing, and maintaining refuges for migratory birds and other wildlife.

Possession of the stamp is required by law of every person over 16 years of age when hunting migratory waterfowl. It sells at \$1 and may be obtained at post offices in county seat towns, in cities of 2,500 population or over, and at specially designated post offices.

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Posters listing the opening dates of the 45-day waterfowl hunting season, bag limits, and other regulations are on display in post offices throughout the country. Each fall the Biological Survey, which administers the migratory bird regulations, prepares these posters for the convenience of sportsmen. The poster also contains information on Canadian waterfowl seasons and local names of common species of ducks.

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