



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

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PHOTOS Available from Biological Survey

1940 DUCK STAMP DESIGN ANNOUNCED

The design of the 1940 "duck stamp," which must be purchased by all migratory waterfowl hunters more than 16 years old, will be taken from a drawing by Francis L. Jaques, Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes was advised today by the Bureau of Biological Survey. Seventh in the series, the new stamp is now in the hands of engravers and will be available to the public at all first- and second-class post offices on July 1.

Mr. Jaques' design shows a pair of black ducks flying down wind over a marsh area. Wild rice is shown in the background.

Since the first stamp was issued in August 1934, the "duck stamp" has become familiar to all hunters of migratory waterfowl and to philatelists and conservationists throughout the country. Nearly twice the size of a special delivery stamp, it costs one dollar.

Anyone may purchase the "duck stamp" singly, in blocks, or in complete sheets of 28 stamps. Unsold issues are required by law to be destroyed after the year of issue has expired. Last year more than 1,000,000 stamps were sold. Biological Survey officials estimate that not more than 20,000 of these were sales to philatelists.

Ninety percent of the money realized from the sale of "duck stamps" is used by the Biological Survey to supplement other funds for the purchase and maintenance of waterfowl refuges throughout the country. The remaining ten percent is used for printing and distributing stamps, administrative purposes of the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act, and other Federal activities relative to migratory bird conservation.

Total annual sales of "duck stamps" since the first issue are as follows: 635,001 (1934); 448,204 (1935); 603,623 (1936); 783,039 (1937); 1,002,715 (1938). More than 1,025,000 stamps in the 1939 series have already been sold, according to the latest figures from Post Office officials. The 1939 stamp will remain on sale until June 30, 1940.