



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INFORMATION SERVICE

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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ANNUAL FEDERAL DUCK STAMP COMPETITION ANNOUNCED

The design for the 1951-52 Federal "Duck Stamp" will be chosen in a competition open to all artists, amateurs as well as professionals, Secretary of the Interior Oscar L. Chapman announced today. All entries must be received by the Fish and Wildlife Service on or before January 2, 1951.

Each year the design used on the duck stamp is chosen by a judging committee of waterfowl authorities from among entries submitted by artists from every part of the nation. This year's contest is the second open to all artists. Until last year, artists submitted entries by invitation only.

The winning artist will receive no compensation.

The Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp—better known as the "duck stamp"—has become familiar to all migratory waterfowl hunters and to philatelists and conservationists throughout the country since the first issue in the series went on sale in 1934. Nearly twice the size of a special delivery stamp, it costs \$2. Sale is handled by the Post Office Department. Everyone over 16 years of age who hunts migratory waterfowl is required to have a Federal duck stamp in his possession, validated by his signature.

"Few events have ever exerted a more profound effect on the conservation of American waterfowl than the passage of the original duck stamp legislation," according to Director Day of the Fish and Wildlife Service. "Besides providing funds to be used directly for refuges, the interest in the whole problem of waterfowl conservation has been greatly increased by the duck stamps. This interest is enhanced by the annual duck stamp contest."

Artists may use any medium in making their drawings: pen and ink, oils, transparent or opaque wash, or pencil. The subject of the stamp must be a true-to-life portrait of wild American waterfowl.

The three basic rules of the contest are:

1. The design must be 5 by 7 inches in size, and black and white only.
2. No scroll work or lettering can appear on the picture itself, but the artist's signature (and the name of the species shown) should be added just below the picture, with the artist's name and address printed on the back of the entry.

3. No pictures can be accepted in wooden frames or under glass. Each picture should be mounted on a mat, and protected by a covering of tissue or cellophane.

Failure to observe these rules will result in the rejection of the entry. The disqualified drawing will be returned, and, if there is time, the artist may submit another entry in accord with the rules.

Entries may be submitted at any time, but must reach the Fish and Wildlife Service on or before January 2, 1951. The judging of the competition will take place within a month of that date and all entries will be returned. Each contestant will be mailed an announcement of the winning artist and design.

Competition entries should be mailed to the Duck Stamp Contest, Division of Information, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C. The artist's name and address should be carefully marked on the package.

In previous years, winning entries depicted ducks, geese or swans, in position and plumage "as the hunter sees them". The 17 species that have been represented on the stamps, and the dates of issue, are: 1934, mallards; 1935, canvas-backs; 1936, Canada geese; 1937, scaup; 1938, pintails; 1939, green-wing teal; 1940, black ducks; 1941, ruddy ducks; 1942, widgeon; 1943, wood ducks; 1944, white fronted geese; 1945, shovelers; 1946, redheads; 1947, snow geese; 1948, buffleheads; 1949, goldeneyes; 1950, trumpeter swans.

Other species, which have never been used and which the artists may wish to consider, are: blue geese, emperor geese, cackling geese, American brant, black brant, whistling swans, coot or mud hen, bluewing teal, cinnamon teal, gadwall, ringneck duck, American merganser, red breasted merganser, hooded merganser, old squaw, harlequin, white-wing scoter, surf scoter, American scoter, king eider, spectacled eider, Pacific eider, or any other species of wild waterfowl in North America.

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