

Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamps

The series and its Usage

This exhibit will show the entire U.S. Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp series, often referred to as the "Duck Stamp", from its' beginning in 1934 to the present. It is the longest continuously running series in U.S. philately. Each issue will be shown with a mint plate number single from every reported printing plate used, as well as a used example on license. The exhibit includes many of the errors and varieties, pre-production proofs, and one of the two Scott listed trail color proofs. Notes on the stamps' production, information on the usage shown, the artist, total stamp sales, and the species depicted are included. Since this is the only stamp series in the world that selects the design by means of a competitive art contest, examples of preliminary artist sketches, an original contest entry, and the original winning artwork for the 1949 stamp are also shown. The viewer should be aware that duck hunting takes place in wet and otherwise adverse conditions, so the licenses and stamps carried in the field generally have some defects. Reduced color copies are used where needed. Important material is highlighted in red. An "E" to the right of an item indicates it has been expertized. This exhibit is the culmination of 30+ years of collecting.

The exhibit outline is as follows:

- I Form 3333
- II Stamp Series Production and Usages
 - A. Flat Plate Printings
 - B. Rotary Press Printings