



News Release

For Immediate Release: June 21, 2010

Contacts: Jeannie Stafford (FWS) 775-861-6300
Jamie Klund (Cabela's) 775-829-4128

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Joins Cabela's at First Day of Sale of 2010-2011 Federal Duck Stamp

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office and Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge will join Cabela's to celebrate the first day of sale of the 2010-2011 Federal Duck Stamp from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, June 25, at the Reno Cabela's, located on I-80 Exit 4 (Boomtown Exit). The Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps, commonly known as "Duck Stamps," are pictorial stamps produced by the U.S. Postal Service for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service which fund conservation for a wide variety of species.

The winning artwork from the 2010 Nevada Junior Duck Stamp poster contest will be displayed along with information for students in grades K-12, on how to enter the competition for the 2011 contest, which is open until March. Free calendars featuring the 2010 Nevada Junior Duck Stamp winning artwork will be available to the first 100 people attending the first day of sale event at Cabela's.

Originally created in 1934 as the federal licenses required for hunting migratory waterfowl, Federal Duck Stamps have a much larger purpose today. Ninety-eight percent of the proceeds from stamp sales go to the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund. The stamps, which sell for \$15, raise about \$25 million annually to fund wetland habitat acquisition for the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Since the creation of the Federal Duck Stamp program, sales of Duck Stamps have raised more than \$750 million to purchase nearly six million acres of wildlife habitat for the National Wildlife Refuge System. Twenty refuges in the Pacific Southwest Region (California, Nevada, and Oregon's Klamath Basin) have directly benefitted from the sale of these stamps.

Besides being a conservation tool and required for waterfowl hunting, a current year's Federal Duck Stamp also serves as an entrance pass for National Wildlife Refuges where admission is normally charged. In addition to hunters, conservationists, recreational birders, stamp collectors and others also purchase these popular collector stamps. The Federal Duck Stamp and the Junior Duck Stamp will be available for purchase at Cabela's on the first day of sale from 9:00 am to

9:00 pm at the Customer Service counter and throughout the rest of the year during normal business hours.

This year's 2010-2011 Duck Stamp features a painting of an American Wigeon by artist Robert Bealle of Waldorf, Maryland. Bealle's painting was selected from works by 224 artists from across the U.S. who competed in the 2009 Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest. The popular contest, held annually since 1949, is the only art competition of its kind sponsored by the federal government. This year's contest will be held October 15-16, 2010 at the David Brower Center in Berkeley, California. It is the first time the contest has been held in a State west of the Mississippi River. The winning entry from the 2010 contest will grace the 2011-2012 Federal Duck Stamp. More information about this year's contest is available at:

<http://www.fws.gov/cno>.

-end-