

United States Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Washington, D. C.

June 29, 1942.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"DUCK STAMPS" FOR HUNTERS
ALSO INTEREST COLLECTORS

The 1942 Federal migratory-bird hunting stamp which all duck and goose hunters over 16 years old must purchase are being placed on sale at all first- and second-class post offices, beginning July 1.

The new duck stamp, ninth in an annual series, has been taken from a dry-point by A. Lassell Ripley, and features the American widgeon, or baldpate, reports the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior.

Since first issued in August 1934, the duck stamps have become familiar to wildfowlers, philatelists, and conservationists through the country, says the Service. An increasing interest among stamp collectors is reported. About twice the size of a special delivery stamp, the duck stamps cost \$1 each and may be purchased singly, in blocks, or in complete sheets of 28 stamps.

Hunters must carry stamps on their persons while hunting migratory waterfowl, and each hunter must cancel his stamp with his signature.

The artist, A. Lassell Ripley, of Lexington, Mass., famous for his wildlife etchings and paintings, has contributed to leading outdoor magazines and such books as the Derrydale Press's de luxe "Tranquility Revisited" by Col. H. P. Sheldon. His duck-stamp design shows a pair of widgeons at the edge of a coastal marsh, with a second drake coming in to join them.

Philatelic information regarding the new stamp is as follows: Color: Brown. Origin of material: Photograph of an etching by A. Lassell Ripley, furnished by the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior. Designers: Central design by A. Lassell Ripley; frame and lettering by William K. Schrage. Engravers: The vignette by Carl T. Arlt; outline, frame, lettering, and numeral by George L. Huber. Plate numbers: 149,599 and 149,600.

From July 1, 1941, through March 31, 1942, 1,400,331 stamps were purchased. This 9-month figure is about 200,000 more than has been sold throughout any previous fiscal year.

Ninety percent of the money realized from the sale of duck stamps is used by the Fish and Wildlife Service to supplement other funds for the purchase and maintenance of waterfowl refuges throughout the country. The remaining 10 percent is used for printing and distributing stamps, administrative purposes of the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act, and other Federal activities for migratory bird conservation.